#### DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 242 964

INSTITUTION

CE 038 820

AUTHOR TITLE

Heath; Betty; Camp, William G.

Microcomputers in Small Business Management.

Leadership and Training Series No. 64.

Ohio State Univ., Columbus. National Center for Research in Vocational Education.

SPONS AGENCY Office of Vocational and Adult Education (ED),

Washington; DC;

PUB DATE

CONTRACT

300-83-0016

NOTE

106p.

AVAILABLE FROM

National Center Publications, National Center for

Research in Vocational Education; 1960 Kenny Road;

Columbus, OH 43210 (LT64--\$6:50).

PUB TYPE

Guides - Non-Classroom Use (055)

EDRS PRICE DESCRIPTORS MF01/PC05 Plus Postage.

Adult Education; \*Business Administration; \*Business Education; Computer Oriented Programs; \*Computer Software; Evaluation Criteria; Instructional

Materials; Media Selection; \*Microcomputers; Postsecondary Education; School\_Role; Secondary Education; \*Small Businesses; \*Telecommunications;

Vocational Education

#### ABSTRACT

This guide is designed to assist vocational educators in training individuals at the secondary, postsecondary, and adult levels to use microcomputers in small business management. An overview of the use of microcomputers in the small business setting is provided in the introduction; included in the next section is a multi-page matrix dealing with software that is available for use in the three top-selling computers to perform small business functions: A review of 49 business software packages from the matrix is also provided. Discussed next are organizational structures at the secondary, postsecondary, and adult levels and methods for training potential and presently employed business personnel to use microcomputers. The section on software packages suggests criteria to guide purchasers in reviewing, evaluating, and selecting software packages based on their individual needs and resources. Concluding the guide is a discussion of telecommunications that examines the implications of networking and telecommunicating for small businesses: Appendixes to the guide include information about business software sources; journals; books, software directories and guides; and business and instructional software evaluation instruments: (MN)

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## MICROCOMPUTERS IN SMALL BUSINESS MANAGEMENT

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The National Center for Research in Vocational Education The Ohio State University 1960 Kenny Road Columbus, Ohio 43210

1984

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# FUNDING INFORMATION

Project Title:

National Center for Research in Vocational Education, Dissemina-

Contract Number.

300830016

Project Number:

051MH30001

Act under Which Funds Administered:

Education Amendments of 1976, P.L. 94-482

Source of Contract:

Office of Vocational and Adult Education

U.S. Department of Education

Washington; D.C. 20202

Contractor

The National Center for Research in Vocational Education

The Ohio State University

1960 Kenny Road Columbus, Ohio 43210

Executive Director:

Robert E. Taylor

Disclaimer:

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#### **FOREWORD**

Microcomputers in Small Business Management will serve as a resource in developing training programs for microcomputer users in small business operations. Software reviews demonstrate the microcomputer's capabilities to perform management tasks and to teach management concepts and skills. Vocational educators and others will benefit from the discussion of organizational structure and training methods to use in designing programs and criteria to use in evaluating and selecting appropriate software packages. Finally, the broader aspect of telecommunications and its application to the small business operation is presented.

The profession is indebted to Dr. Betty Heath and Dr. William G. Camp for their scholarship in preparing this guide. Dr. Heath is Assistant Professor of Marketing Education and Dr. Camp is Assistant Professor of Agricultural Education at Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University. E. Gene Coulson contributed to the paper by reviewing information about software programs.

Dr. Don Kohns, University of North Dakota; Gregory Glau, Glau Gas Equipment Company; and Dr. James Long and Dr. Ida Halasz of the National Center for Research In Vocational Education contributed to the development of the paper by their critical review of the manuscript. Staff who assisted in the production of this guide included Judy Balogh; Dr. Judith Samuelson, and Dr. Jay Smink. Buth Nunley typed the manuscript and Janet Ray served as word processor operator. Editorial assistance was provided by Christie Durtschi of the Field Services staff:

Robert E. Taylor
Executive Director
The National Centur for Research
In Vocational Education



## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

This guide has been prepared to assist vocational educators in training individuals at the secondary, postsecondary, and adult levels to use microcomputers in small business management. The guide could also be used by business personnel to identify programs to be used as management tools and as a resource to use in training their own employees.

This guide took the form presented due to a decision by the authors to limit the discussion of business applications software to that available for three types of microcomputers. The selection of microcomputers was made based on the availability of a wide variety of software packages for each. No endorsement of any microcomputer hardware or software or telecommunication system is intended.

The search conducted for available software was thorough but not exhaustive. Cost figures given are those reported as of December 1; 1983:

An overview of microcomputers in the small business setting is provided in the introduction. Included in this overview are (1) benefits to the overall business operation and uses of the microcomputer as a management tool: (2) current status of microcomputer sales along with predictions for market growth and future trends in business: and (3) a review of the role of vocational education in training individuals to use the microcomputer. The following sections deal in depth with applications of microcomputers in small businesses: training approaches and methods that can be used by vocational educators; evaluation of business and instructional software; and the broad scope of telecommunications.

To demonstrate the various applications of the microcomputer and wide-range capabilities of software, a multipage matrix is provided for the three top-selling microcomputers—Apple; IBM; and TRS-80. This matrix shows eleven functional areas in the small business operation and selected software packages available to perform tasks within each area. The functional areas covered by the matrix are data base/file management, distribution, financial records, inventory control, marketing and sales; planning; production planning and control, purchasing, specialty programs, miscellaneous, and word processing:

In addition, forty-nine business software packages from the matrix are reviewed with respect to source, cost, hardware equipment, and description. These packages were selected for review because of their popularity and positive reports by users and vendors.

The discussion of organizational structures at the secondary, postsecondary, and adult levels, and methods for training potential and presently employed business personnel to use microcomputers is supported by a review of twenty-seven instructional software packages. These packages are currently available to teach small business management concepts and skills:

The section on software evaluation suggests criteria to guide purchasers in reviewing; evaluating; and selecting software packages based on their individual needs and resources. Suggested



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criteria include motivational incentives, reliability; documentation; user friendliness, and reproductibility. This section is especially useful to the novice because of the overwhelming number of software packages on the market today and the varying capabilities of these packages.

Finally, telecommunications is discussed with respect to the requirements for telecommunicating; available commercial databases, and the implications that networking and telecommunicating have for small businesses:

The appendices include information about business software sources, journals, books, software directories and guides; and business and instructional software evaluation instruments.



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#### INTRODUCTION

#### Purpose

The purpose of this guide is to provide vocational educators with a resource for developing curricula for training individuals to use microcomputers in small businesses. This guide may be used to develop programs at the secondary, postsecondary, and adult levels. In addition, the guide will serve as a resource for business personnel who wish to identify programs to be used as management tools and for those who wish to use the guide as a resource for training their own employees.

## Microcomputers in Small Businesses

#### Benefits

Should a business computerize? The answer is "yes" if a computer (1) helps business personnel to better manage the business; (2) provides information the business needs, and (3) is cost beneficial to the business (Copley 1983). The advent of the microcomputer and user-friendly, inexpensive software has made it possible for small businesses to take advantage of the many benefits a computer offers. Following are several applications of a microcomputer that can benefit small business management.

- A microcomputer stores information and retrieves it upon command and performs mathematical operations and comparisons.
- Software packages are available to eliminate the need for manually performed routine calculations; for example, budgets, payroll, employee records; and sales commissions.
- Manufacturing packages control man\_facturing processes: monitor production quality, count production quantities, and report malfunctions (Veil 1981).
- Manuscripts and correspondence are typed and easily corrected through word processing packages, eliminating the need for retyping to correct errors. Also, word processing packages facilitate personalized mass mailings by accessing mailing lists.
- Since approximately 110 pages can be stored on one side of a 5 1/4-inch diskette, information storage space is reduced.
- Inventory control at J daily transaction packages provide an accurate, up-to-date account
  of inventory levels, back orders, stock turnover, and daily, monthly, and year-to-date
  sales. In addition, the package automatically provides inventory checklists, inventory
  value reports, receiving reports, reorder reports; purchase orders, and packing slips.



 A microcomputer can tie into networking systems to provide additional services such as making airline reservations, sending and receiving electronic mail, buying and selling items, and performing banking transactions:

#### Potential Uses

Microcomputers and their software are being used to perform a variety of management tasks in small businesses. Following are six functional areas in business where microcomputer programs can be used and a brief description of the types of programs in these areas: (Software packages are discussed further in the second and fourth chapters of the guide.)

- File Management: Programs allow the user to create, retrieve, sort, and modify files of information according to any desired format or category.
- Word Processing: Programs allow the user to enter, store, and print text material. The
  user can quickly correct mistakes; move lines and paragraphs, and reformat without
  retyping.
- Financial Modeling: Usually this software will transform the video monitor into a spreadsheet of rows and columns. Programs can be used to create and to perform number crunching and data manipulation activities and calculations using formulas and data entered by the user. Uses include cash flow forecasting and analysis, budget planning and consolidation, sales planning and forecasting; and material and labor requirements planning:
- Graphical Presentation: Programs allow the user to create and display graphs and charts of data.
- Accounting and Cash Management: Using these programs, activities such as payroll; general ledger; accounts receivable/payable, inventory control, and purchasing can be performed on the microcomputer (Freeland 1983, pp. 58-59).
- Special Applications: A variety of programs perform functions designed for specific businesses, for example, job cost estimators for the construction industry, property listings for the real estate industry, cost analysis for the restaurant industry, patient accounts and record, for medical offices, livestock and crop production records for agriculture, and point-of-purchase transactions for retailing establishments.

#### Status

In the last few years, microcomputer sales have grown extensively; with major sales occurring in professional and business markets (ibid., p. 57). In 1980, hardware dollar sales reached \$1.8 billion and sales estimates for 1982 were \$4.9 billion (Friedrich 1983). Daniel Flystra of VisiCorp estimates that there are 2:3 million potential users in the very small business segment and 2:5 million potential users in the self-employed professional market (Freeland 1983; p. 58).

A recent study revealed that of the two hundred microcomputer models manufactured today; those leading the market are Apple, IBM, and TRS-80 ("PC Survey" 1983). Portable computers such as the Raypro Corona and Compaq seem to be most popular for people who need to trans-



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port their computers. It is predicted that in the near future two microcomputers will emerge to set the industry standards and all other microcomputers will need to be compatible with those two

The supply of software currently on the market can be overwhelming to a potential user. Time, an educated public; and competition to produce quality programs will enable the better software developers and programs to survive: Meanwhile, it is important that users carefully evaluate and select the software most appropriate for their needs.

#### Outlook

As stated previously, the trend thus far in business has been toward use of the microcomputer for electronic manipulation, storage, and transmission of information. Numerous programs to eliminate the monotonous routine of manual calculation and handling of data are aiready in use. Predictions for future trends include—

- increasing use of desktop computers by managers; particularly in home office situations—with capabilities for connection with other computers and networking systems,
- videotext systems in wide use by 1990 (Harris 1982);
- electronic catalogs accessible from computer users' homes through terminals or microcomputers with modems (IbId.).
- small businesses ordering supplies and merchandise from manufacturers through their business computers.

Ultimately the microcomputer will become important to all small business managers, whether farm, auto shop, store, home, office; or service—as important perhaps as the telephone, cash register, calculator, or file cabinet, and quite possibly replacing them all.

## The Role of Vocational Education

The introduction of the microcomputer to small business situations allows personnel to perform routine tasks and a variety of management functions faster and sometimes more thoroughly than ever before. In the long run, the microcomputer will help small businesses become more competitive with larger businesses. The growing emphasis on computers and the need for technically knowledgeable: competent personnel signals the need for a change in present training programs. In order to accomplish this, jobs will need to be analyzed within the areas of vocational education training to determine emerging technological trends. Once new training needs have been identified, vocational educators will need to design programs and materials to help their students become employable in this rapidly growing technological world.

At the secondary and postsecondary levels, vocational personnel have the responsibility to include computer training in their vocational programs. Training should not be treated as a separate unit or course, but should be incorporated, where appropriate, into the curriculum of each vocational program. In addition, teacher education programs, state departments of education, and local education agencies are accountable for seeing that vocational teachers are prepared to train their students in the use of the computer for creating and handling information in their respective vocational fields.



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It is predicted that by the year 2000, two-thirds of the population will earn a living by creating managing, and controlling information ("Shopper's Guide—Rates and Information" 1983, p. 48). Computers will be the medium through which this is accomplished. Therefore, it is the role of vocational education to see that vocational students are able to meet the demands of this coming information age.



## APPLICATIONS IN SMALL BUSINESSES

With two hondred microcomputer models being manufactured, 2,900 software manufacturers, and more than 21,000 software programs commercially available to date, for the purpose of this publication, it was necessary to limit the software to be identified and reviewed. Therefore, discussion will be limited to the three microcomputers for which the largest number of software programs for business applications are available. They are the Apple with approximately 1,044 programs, the IBM with 842; and the TRS-80 with 1,072 (Software Directory 1983).

The following matrix shows a breakdown of the small business operation into eleven functional areas and itemizes alternative software packages available to perform tasks within each functional area. Software packages included in the matrix were selected based on popularity, positive reviews, availability, and reputation of software packages and software publishers. Sources are listed also on the matrix beside the package title. (Sources' addresses and phone numbers are found in appendix A.)

To show the capabilities of various software; selected packages—indicated by an asterisk on the matrix—are reviewed at the end of this section. These reviews should provide direction to individuals interested in exploring microcomputer software:



# BUSINESS SOFTWARE MATRIX

# (For the Apple, IBM, and TRS-80 Microcomputers)

Microcomputers	apple			JAW.		TR8-00	
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NOTE appendix A for software sources' addresses. "Business software reviews follow libs matrix.



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	Mad Merge	MicroPro International	Mailey	PCE Systems	Max Mād	Adventure International	
	Magic Address	Prachire Software	Mailing List	NL Nehring	Mading Cists	Lize, n Computer System	
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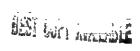


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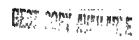
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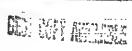


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for Public Aid

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Medical Systems

Medičil Syšlems

Ambulance Dispiliching

IMS Dental Office Management

Medical Data Management

Medical Office Menagement

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and Cost Analyses

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Spectrum Software

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Software

**Realty Software** 

TAS-80

Source

Medical Software Consortium Hadio Shack Downeasi Digital Downeast Digital Hexagon Systems High Technology Soliware ...Prodüč(š Micro Archilect Jae Adrellä

Pocket Information

Computation Computer Systems Design



Microcomputers: Functional Area	APPLE				TRB-80	
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	A renters commercial.		Property Listings		Standard & Poor's Slockpak	Padio Shack
	Stack and commercial		Comparables	Renlly Sollware	Banking Programs	GB Lenz
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	Stock Fracher	H&H Trading	The Producer	Melamorphics	Beverage Distributors	Microcon Digital Systems
	The Slock Parliblio System		Rock	ktelamõi phičs	LP Gas D stributors	Johnson Associates
	Analysis and Prices	Smith Micro Software	LP Gas Distributors	Johnson Associates	Slation Management	Institute for Scientific
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	The Bar Wand	Advanced Business	Personal Investor	POL		
	Marine America	Technology	Point of Sale	ICS Software		
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	Raini Manager	Advanced Business	Microhase Ad Agency System	Microbase Spitware		
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	Spellster	MicroPro International	Volkswriter	Lifetre# Software	OeskTopper-Pač⊥	CMA Microcomputer Division
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# BEST COPY ANNUABLE



## BUSINESS SOFTWARE REVIEWS

The software reviews appear in alphabetical order by title. Source, cost, hardware requirement, and description are included: An index is provided.

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NOTE In all cases, the disk operating system (DOS) required is the standard machine DOS, that is, DOS 3.3 or 3.2 1 for Apple, TRS DOS for TRS-80, and PC DOS 1.1 or 2.0 for IBM, unless specified otherwise

Title: Accounts Payable

Source: Continental Software

Cost: \$250 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, IIe, 48K; 2 disk drives, printer

Description: Continental's Accounts Payable is one of a set of related accounting programs, each sold under the title The Computer Programmed Accountant (CPA). Although this package is fully capable of stand-alone use, in the set each package can interact with all the others in sharing data. This package accepts invoice data from the user and maintains all the standard files: vendor lists cash requirements, discounts, payment due dates, aging data; a list of open invoices, and a transaction register. The user directs the program to pay selected invoices; or to pay specified categories of invoices: The computer then prints required checks and enters the data in the check register.

Title: Accounts Payable

Source: Peachtree Software

Cost: \$595 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: IBM PC, 2 disk drives, printer

Description: As a part of a larger, integrated accounting system for the IBM PC, Peachtree's Accounts Payable provides the small business manager with many valuable tools. Included are vendor records, payment due dates, discount amounts and dates, and cash requirements. The package contains fifteen separate programs that accept input, create further data, prepare reports, and instruct the user as to what further information is needed. Available reports include cash requirements, open invoices; transaction register, aging report, and a vendor file. Once the user directs the computer to pay an invoice, it prints the check and updates the internal check register. The system is menu driven for simplicity of operation:



Title: Accounts Payable

Source: Radio Shack

Cost: \$499 for Model II and 12; \$599 for Model 16 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: TRS-80 Model II, 12, or 16; 2 disk drives or hard disk, 15" tractor printer

Description: This program is part of a complete accounting package; all of which can interact with mutually useable files. This is an accrual system that provides; vendor file; alphabetical vendor list, accounts payable transaction register, aging report, cash requirements, precheck writing accounts, check register, general ledger distribution, and manufacturer analysis:

Title: Accounts Receivable

Source: Continental Software

Cost: \$250 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, IIe, 48K, 2 disk drives, printer

Description: This program is one component of the Computer Programmed Accountant (CPA) by Continental. It can be used as a stand-alone system. Accounts Receivable allows for printing invoices or statement billing on purchases: The vendor sells preprinted invoice forms or the user can use regular computer paper. Reports include current receivables, aging receivables, monthly sales, year-to-date sales, customer lists, mailing labels, and general ledger posting reports. The detailed aging report includes customer phone number for quick follow-up.

Title: Accounts Receivable

Source: Peachtree Software

Cost: \$595 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: IBM PC, 64R, 2 disk drives; printer

Description: This program is designed to interface with the General Ledger System by Peachtree, however, either package can operate alone. This is a complete involcing and statement-generating package that is fully menu driven for simplicity of use. Customer records including credit information and payment records are maintained automatically. The program provides current accounts receivable as well as three periods of aged receivables. It can also handle customer credit limits; overpayments, prepayments, credits to accounts, and multiple transactions to open accounts:

Title: Accounts Receivable

Source: Radio Shack

Cost: \$499 for Models II and 12; \$599 for Model III (as of 12/1/83)



Hardware Requirements: TRS-80 Models II and 12 require 2 disk drives or hard disk, 15" tractor printer

Description: Part of a fully integrated accounting system; Accounts Receivable allows for open item or balance forward operation that provides for invoicing either at sale or statement billing; current receivables as well as aging reports, with or without details; customer account details such as payment record, discounts; balances, and amount due at any given time; and customer sales tax variations based on tax codes; figuring of commissions, and discounts in computing net amounts due.

Title: AMOS

Source: Computer Software International

Cost: \$1,850 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: IBM PC; 64K; 2 disk drives, printer

Description: AMOS is a medical database management system that can be used to serve only one doctor or a multidector office, or can be used on a networking basis to serve multiple offices. It features medical data and history collection using the national AMA format that lets doctors collect directly from Medicare, Medicaid, Blue Cross/Blue Shield, and EMC. Charges can be specified to patient accounts, statements are generated; mailing labels are printed, and payments are recorded and credited. Appointment scheduling is maintained and the doctor's free time is indicated.

Title: AppleWriter II

Source: Apple Computer

Cost: \$195 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, IIe with 80-column card; 48K; printer

Title: Autoshop

Source: Dale-Bata Data Processing Service

Cost: \$865 & up (as of 12/1/83)



Hardware Requirements: IBM PC, 64K, 2 disk drives; printer

Description: This package solves day-to-day problems associated with the management of an auto repair shop: maintains customer repair orders, customer order invoicing; supplier lists, and mailing lists, and provides profit reports by single jobs or by time frame. It includes a payroll system for employees using any one of four methods to figure gross pay.

Title: Business Graphics Analysis Pak.

Source: Radio Shack

Cost: \$174.95 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: TRS-80 Model III, 48K, disk drive, graphics printer or multipen plotter

Description: The user supplies the type of graphic required, the number of elements, labels, and item values. The program does the rest: Disk files, such as VisiCalc, can be used to provide the data. TRS-80's excellent color graphic printer produces high-quality reproductions of the graphics as seen on the screen.

Title: Client Billing System

Source: High Technology Software Products

Cost: \$100 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, IIe, 48K; 132 column printer, 1 or 2 disk drives

Description: Client Billing System keeps track of customer/client transactions using either an hourly or a fixed rate charge. The system will accommodate up to five hundred different rates. Menu driven, the package handles job cost analysis; payments; and charges.

Title: Computerized Farm Records

Source: Micro LearningWare

Cost: \$99 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, IIe, 48K; TRS-80; 32K; disk drive; printer

Description: This package provides a very simple general ledger system, tailored specifically for farm operation. It accepts expenses, receipts, and enterprise records. Transactions can be taken directly from the checkbook and deposit slips. It provides reports showing cash receipts and disbursements on a month-to-date and a year-to-date basis either by enterprise or in total. Also available are capital purchase status reports, financial statements, and an income statement. Noncash transactions can be accommodated. The program is fully menu driven. While more expensive

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packages provide more sophisticated capabilities, this package performs many functions for a relatively low price

Title: Discounted Cash Flow Analysis

Source: Isaac Software

Cost: \$35 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, IIe, 48K; disk drive: printer

Description: This package discounts or accumulates cash flow at specified interest rates or solves for yield. Cash flow data can be entered for any day in a year from 1950 to 2049. It includes extensive editing and data handling capabilities. Files can be updated or merged as needed.

Title: EZEntry

Source: Systemics

Cost: \$99:95 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: IBM PC, 64k, 2 disk drives, printer

Description. EZEntry is an order-entry program that stores up to two hundred product codes and can handle up to five hundred orders per storage diskette. It accepts order entries and computes costs, tax, discounts, and wholesale and retail price. It also prints customized invoices. For the user with some computer experience, the files can be interfaced with accounting software; however, this package does not offer that capability:

Title: General Ledger

Source: BPI Systems

Cost: \$395 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II; II+; IIe; 48K; 2 disk drives, printer

Description: General Ledger by BPI is well respected in the Industry. It can be used as a standalone system or it can function as a part of the integrated general accounting system by BPI. The very thorough documentation is designed for the nonexpert and a simulated business is set up on diskette to Illustrate the program for the beginner. It works from a general journal that interfaces with all other subsidiary ledgers in the system. This system allows for the creation of up to four hundred general ledger accounts, one hundred payroll ledgers, tive hundred accounts receivable ledgers, two hundred accounts payable ledgers, two hundred accounts receivable ledgers. The BPI system includes accounting functions that must be purchased separately in many other systems.



Title: General Ledger

Source: Peachtree Software

Cost: \$595 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: IBM PC, 2 disk drives, 64K, IBM PC DOS and disk BASIC extension, printer

Description: IBM considers this package to be the "heart" of its total accounting system. It can stand alone or interact with an integrated series of general accounting programs by the same vendor: It maintains a detailed account of all financial transactions and produces balance sheets and income statements. A transaction register is generated by account number, source, entry session; or department, at the user's discretion. It allows for comparison of prior-year records to budget amounts for the current year. Repeating entries are made automatically. The system contains a depreciation-schedule-generating function.

Title: General Ledger

Source: Radio Shack

Cost: \$499 for Model II and 12; \$599 for Model 16 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: TRS-80 Model II, 12, or 16; 2 disk drives or hard drive, 15" printer with tractor drive

Description: This program is designed to stand alone or to interact with the complete accounting system marketed by Radio Shack: It allows for establishment of accounts payable; accounts receivable, and payroll ledgers. The system generates the following reports: income statement; balance sheet, supporting schedules, accounts chart, financial statements, a register of general ledger transactions, trial balance work sheets, and cash flow statements.

Title: Infotory

Source: SSR

Cost: \$425 for IBM; \$295 for Apple (versions are not interchangable) (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II; II+; IIe; 48K; IBM PC, 64K, 2 disk drives, printer

Description: Infotory is a complete inventory management s, stem on Apple with DOS 3.3 and can maintain about 1,200 inventory items; DOS 3.2.1 can handle about 1,000 different items. On IBM, single-sided drives can maintain records on 2,600 different items; double sided drives can handle about 5,000. Documentation is quite c simplete and the package is menu driven. Infotory allows the user to make entries and inquiries on individual items at will. Inventory reports, sales analyses, cost analyses, and price lists can be obtained, as well as on-hand and on-order cost and numbers for individual items. The program includes a reorder reminder when items are running low in stock and provides a reorder list on command.



Title: Insure

Source: The Software Terminal

Cost. \$250 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: IBM PC, 128K; 2 disk drives; printer

Description: This package is designed to assist in the management of a small-to medium-sized insurance agency. It stores client records of almost forty items in the client master file. Also included are separate files on policies and paid and pending business. Mailing lists and labels are available on demand.

Title: Inventory Control

Source: BPI Systems

Cost. \$425 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II. II+, IIe, IBM PC: 2 disk drives; printer

Description: The BPI Inventory Control package is designed to operate alone or in conjunction with the General Accounting System that includes a total of five applications packages: payroll; general ledger; accounts receivable, accounts payable, and inventory control. This highly automated system is fully menu driven and includes tutorial materials in the documentation to teach the beginning user. Each inventory record includes fifteen items of information. The program takes orders, inquiries; updates; purchases, credit memos, and other user input; produces shipping orders, routing slips; purchase orders; invoices, customer lists, and vendor lists; and provides numerous management reports such as inventory control general ledger, profit and loss statements, trial balances, order lists; and cash receipts; among many others. This is a very complete and versatile system.

Title: Inventory Control System

Source: Radio Shack

Cost: \$299 for Model II; \$399 for Model II and 16 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: TRS-80 Model II with floppy or hard disk, Model 16 with hard disk

Description: The program assists in cycle counting; ordering; and report generation. As purchases are made, the program posts receipts, prints mailing labels, and fully maintains files on listed items. Inventories are updated as purchases are made and reorder lists and company purchase orders are prepared as inventories are depleted.



Title KYC (Know Your Client)

Source: Executive Microcomputing Software

Cost: \$124.95 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, IIe, IBM PC; 48K; disk drive, printer optional

Description: KYC is a client-prospecting and follow-up system: It maintains information on client name; title, address, phone, company name, and data on last contact; keeps track of "caliback requests"; and provides lists of clients who have not been contacted in the last thirty and sixty days. Mailing lists and mailing labels can be generated.

Title: Lazy Writer

Source: AlphaBit Communications

Cost: under \$50 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: TRS-80, 32K, disk drive, printer

Description: Using this standard word processing package, the operator can produce letters, forms; memoranda; mail labels and lists, manuscripts, and other written material of any length; Features are fairly standard: Included are boldface and underlining, which are not contained in many word processing packages:

Title: Money Decisions, Vol. I, Vol. II

Source: Eagle Software Publishers

Cost: \$199 for Vol. I; \$229 for Vol. II; \$399 for Vol. I and II (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II; II+; IIe, IBM PC, TRS-80 (TRS-80 uses CP/M), disk drive; printer

Description: This is a sophisticated set of programs that facilitates management decisions. It allows such comparisons as lease versus buy and provides analyses of break-even points. Trend analysis and projection and pricing and production decisions are handled as well as capital budgeting. In addition, the program has extensive graphics capability for graphic analysis and additional applications for accounting, banking; manufacturing; medicine, construction, civil engineering, and equipment leasing. Vol. I consists of thirty-four programs; Vol. II has thirty-six programs.

Title: Multiplan

Source: MicroSoft

Cost: \$250 (as of 12/1/83)



Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, IIe; IBM PC; TRS-80 Model I, II, III, disk drive, printer

Description: Multiplan is an electronic spreadsheet with up to 255 rows and up to 63 columns Each cell in the matrix starts out blank, but the user can enter numbers; labels, or formulas as desired. No knowledge of programming is required; however; effective use of such programs requires that the user learn the package and its commands thoroughly. Tutorial examples are included in the documentation for this purpose. Multiplan allows the user to "link" up to eight different files on the diskette for more complex analyses. This feature allows the user to make an entry on one spreadsheet and have all of the cells that are affected in the other sheets automatically updated. Electronic spreadsheets are ideal for financial projections, comparison of management alternatives, and answering "what if" questions using budget data or production data. Like other spreadsheets, Multiplan can be used in such "modeling" or simulation roles.

Title: Order Entry/ICS

Source: Radio Shack

Cost: \$499 for Model II; \$599 for Model 16 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: TRS-80 Model II and 12 with 4 disk drives or hard disk, Model 16 with 3 disk drives or hard disk; 15" wide printer

Description: This package is one part of a complete accounting system marketed by Radio Shack. It requires and interacts with the Accounts Receivable package and feeds information to the Sales Analysis Program. Orders are entered and edited as needed: The program provides the following reports: Item receipt register, billing register, picking tickets; order list; price list, item stock status report, and a purchasing advice report. The program allows either single-pass involving or a two-pass order with separate billing.

Title: The Order Scheduler

Source: High Technology Software Products

Cost: \$150 (as of 12/1/83)

: Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, IIe, printer, 2 disk drives

Description: The Order Scheduler accepts purchase order entries from the user and maintains them on a first-in; first-out basis until they are shipped. It prints a complete daily shipping list, maintains a current inventory of shipped Items, and deletes items from inventory as they are purchased. Purchases that are to be filled repeatedly can be entered once and reactivated at the specified interval. The system can handle up to five hundred separate purchase orders at a time.

Title" P.A.C.E. (Prompt Accurate Cost Estimator)

Source: High Technology Software Products



Cost. \$395 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, IIe, III, IBM PC, 64K, 2 or 3 disk drives, 132-column printer

Description: P.A.C.E. is a general purpose cost estimation system that accepts detailed budgetary input from the user. As in all spreadsheet-type programs, it is not a substitute for accurate budgeting and record keeping on the part of the user. It provides a detailed statement of estimated cost, including a list of resources needed and time requirements. When prices or estimated data change, the program automatically recalculates and updates throughout the system.

Title: Payroll

Source: Continental Software

Cost: \$250 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II; II+; IIe; 48K; 2 disk drives, printer

Description: Continental Software has assembled a complete four-module accounting system, of which Payroll is one part. Complete personnel files are maintained on each employee to include time worked, wage or salary, earnings, withholdings; vacation time earned and used, sick leave time earned and used, and more. The program includes current federal income tax and FICA tables that can be updated by the user as they change. The program calculates the payroll, prints the checks, and updates the payroll account automatically. For an additional fifty dollars yearly, Continental will supply updated tax data disks.

Title: Payroll

Source: Radio Shack

Cost: \$599 for Model II and 12; \$699 for Model 16 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: TRS-80 Model II, 12, or 16 with 2 disk drives or hard disk, 15" printer with tractor drive

Description: This is a complete payroll system that accepts wage or salary data; computes payroll, and prints checks. It then interfaces with the general ledger system to update the payroll account contained there. It handles hourly or salaried employees and allows up to seven different payroll frequencies. Vacation; sick leave; and recall information are maintained, and up to one year of detailed pay history can be recalled. The package computes deductions for taxes and prints out W-2 forms at the end of the year.

Title: PFS:File

Source: Software Publishing

Cost: \$125 for Apple; \$140 for IBM (as of 12/1/83)



Hardware Requirements: IBM PC with 64K, Apple II, II+, IIe, with 48K, 1 disk drive required, 2 disk drives preferred, printer

Description: A very sophisticated data management system, PFS:File has excellent documentation and is easy to learn and simple to use. It allows the user to develop virtually any data format required. The screen shows exactly what the printed matter will look like to facilitate form design item lengths are completely open up to the maximum length of a given form. This feature allows for descriptive material or remarks sections to be included. The current version includes numerical or alphabetic searches and sorts: keyword, greater than, less than, between, and "not" searches. Updating of existing entries, addition of new entries; and reformatting of existing formats can be accomplished without loss of data previously entered: Mailing labels, checks, and forms of almost any kind can be printed. Only one type of form can be maintained per disk, which seems a bit wasteful of disk space; however, this cuts down on the likelihood of errors. The programs can search any combination of fields at one time. If the form is developed with sorting in mind, the program can sort more than one field at a time.

Title: PFS:Graph

Source: Software Publishing

Cost: \$175 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II. II+, IIE, 64K, 2 disk drives; graphics capable printer with graphics interface, color monitor preferred but not required for monochrome display

Description: PFS:Graph produces line, bar, and pie graphs in monochrome or color. While true text is not available; the high-resolution graphics text generator provides a labeling capability for this program. Data stored on PFS:File can be used to generate graphs; or data can be specified separately. Pictures are saved as binary files that can be "dumped" onto graphics-capable printers.

Title: Property Listings Comparables

Source: Realty Software

Cost: \$325 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: IBM PC; disk drive, printer

Description. This package provides a content of the maintenance of property listings and comparable recent sales. It allows for the selection of appropriate listings by price range, number of bedrooms, number of units, city, and zone. One characteristic or a combination of characteristics can be specified by the prospect and the program selects all appropriate listings. Performance selections can be made based on a maximum gross factor; maximum price per square foot of improvements, and minimum cash flow required, in any combination:



Title: The Prospector

Source: Executive Data Systems

Cost: \$300 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: IBM PC, 128K, disk drive, printer

Decription: This is a sales prospect and follow-up organizer. It supports sales efforts using personal sales calls, keeps a file on customers, assists in direct mail advertising by printing mailing lists, separates regular clients from prospects, maintains supplier lists, and prints mailing labels. All lists can be broken down into subsets based on user-specified criteria.

## Title: Restaurant Inventory Control and Cost Analysis Program

Source: Advanced Analytical Computer Systems

Cost: Contact vendor for quote

Hardware Requirements: IBM PC; 128K; 2 disk drives, 132-column printer

Description: This program maintains a perpetual inventory and supply reorder list and provides the capability to conduct a food cost analysis; menu item analysis, sales mix analysis, and a current menu item cost analysis. As the inventory control detects an upcoming shortage, a list of food item reorders is generated along with printed purchase orders. This program can be used in all types of restaurants and bars. Vendor/supplier lists are maintained and can be updated as needed.

Title: Sales Analysis

Source: Micro Business Software

Cost: \$1,000 for source code: \$200 for object code (as of 12/1/8?)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, and IIe with CP/M only with 4 disk drives, IBM PC 64K using PC DOS with 4 single-sided or 2 double-sided disk drives; printer

Description: This package is designed for use with the vendor's Accounts Receivable and Order Entry/Inventory Control packages. For that reason, it is not a stand-alone system. This system produces the sales analysis reports by customer, customer category, state, item; item category; sales person; and for total sales:

Title: Sales Analysis

Source: Radio Shack

Cost: \$299 for Model II and 12; \$399 for Model III (as of 12/1/83)



Hardware Requirements: TR-80 Model II or 12 with 4 disk drives or hard disk, Model 16 with 3 disk drives or hard disk, 15" printer with tractor feed

Description: This is the final component in the complete accounting system from Radio Shack. It takes data from the customer file of the Accounts Receivable package or the item file of the Order Entry/ICS program. Analyses include sales activity by customer, sales activity by type of customer (determined by user), sales volume by customer, sales volume by salesperson, summary by state, summary by item or item category, and total sales volume:

Title: Scripsit

Source: Radio Shack

Cost: \$399 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: TRS-80 Model II or 12; disk drive; printer

Description: Scripsit is Radio Shack's answer to AppleWriter II and IBM's EasyWriter. It is a very good general purpose word processing system and includes all of the expected features. In addition, this program allows for underlining, subscripts, superscripts; and boldface type. Scripsit is a screen-oriented system; which means that the printed material will be essentially identical to the screen version, with the exception that formatting of printed copy can be done by means of commands embedded in the text itself:

Title: The Store Manager

Source: High Technology Software Products

Cost: \$250 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II; II+; IIe, 48K, 2 or 3 disk drives

Description: The Store Manager accepts order entries and maintains continually updated inventory on a maximum of 1,160 different items. It provides up-to-the-minute sales totals for the entire store or by Item. In addition, it prints customer invoices, price quotations, receiving reports, packing slips, purchase orders, and expense vouchers: The program is menu driven and uses plain English to communicate with the user. Also available on command are inventory reports, reorder lists, item movement report, item turnover report, alphabetized listings, and presorted mailing lists.

Title: Tax Decisions

Source: Eagle Softwarr Publishers

Cost: \$299 for IBM; under \$200 for Apple and TRS-80 (as of 12/1/83)

Flardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, IIe, TRS-80 Model I, II; III using CP/M, IBM PC, printer



Description: Tax Decisions was developed by tax professionals to be used by members of the profession. It performs most routine tax number crunching to allow the tax planner to concentrate on tax planning instead of computation: As with any tax program, the user should make sure the program version is the current one and conforms to present tax laws and regulations.

Title: Time Manager

Source: Image Computer Products

Cost: \$150 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+; IIe; 48K; printer (An Internal clock and 80-column board are optional.)

Description: Time Manager provides a personal or professional desk calendar. It generates daily agenda and "to do" lists. Uncompleted items move to the next day, Items are given priority according to a user-assigned code. Permanent dates such as holidays need be entered only for the first year; they will appear each year thereafter.

Tille: Time Manager

Source: IBM

Cost: \$100 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: IBM PC With, 64K, 1 or 2 disk drives; printer

Description: A simple-to-use program, Time Manager provides the user with a computerized desk calendar. Not only does it maintain a schedule of appointments, it provides daily agenda, a daily "to do" list; and an automatic reminder of important deadlines. It tracks events and expenses individually or by category; data can later be collected in several categories to support; for instance; tax records.

Title: Time Manager

Source: Radio Shack

Cost: \$99.95 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: TRS-80 Mode! I and III, 48K, disk drive, printer optional

Description: This relatively simple program maintains a personal or professional appointment calendar and provides a reminder for scheduled meetings and deadlines. In addition, Time Manager provides a permanent record, daily "to do" lists and agenda, and uncompleted items are automatically transferred to the next day's list.



Title: VersaPayroll

Source: H&E Computronics

Cošt: \$99.95 (aš of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: IBM PC, 2 disk drives, printer, 48K

Description: This is one component of the complete five-program VersaBusiness System, but can be operated as a stand-alone system. It maintains complete payroll and financial data on all employees of a small business. It includes current tax tables that can be manually updated as the rates change. The program computes payroll, prints the checks; updates the payroll accounts, and prints out employee data sneets and quarterly reports. At year-end, W-2 forms are provided. A thirty-day money-back guarantee is included with the purchase:

Title: VisiCalc

Source: VisiCorp

Cost: \$200 for IBM; \$250 for Apple; \$299 for TSR-80 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, IIE, IBM PC, TRS-80 Model I; II; III, disk drive, printer

Description: The all time best seller among electronic spreadsheets; VisiCalc provides a maximum of 254 rows by 63 columns. Each cell can accept a number, label, or a formula that automatically calculates a numerical entry for the user. Formulas can be specified for individual cells or replicated easily for segments or complete rows or columns. The excellent documentation includes tutorial materials to help the user learn the package's features and commands, which do lend to be a bit cryptic and confusing at times. Electronic spreadsheets are very useful for making economic projections, alternative comparisons; and answering "what if" questions using budget or production data. Routine calculations and recalculations resulting from additions or changes in any data cell are done automatically, resulting in greater accuracy and less work than manual spreadsheet work.

Title: VisiDex

Source: VisiCorp

Cost: \$250 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+; IIe with 48K; IBM PC with 64K, disk drive, printer

Description: VisiDex is a data and time management system. It allows the user to organize business or personal information and provides a file maintenance system: Names; addresses, phone numbers, dates, "to do" lists, records of decisions and meetings, highlights of reports, tax information, and stock can be maintained. The program allows unlimited cross-referencing. A daily calendar is provided for maintaining appointments and for keeping track of upcoming events.



Title: VišiSchedule

Source: VisiCorp

Cost. \$300 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, IIe with 48K; IBM PC with 64K, at least 2 disk drives printer

Description: Complex project planning and scheduling are done with relative ease using VisiCorp's new VisiSchedule. Critical time paths are determined; automatically based on input characteristics. It allocates time; costs, specifies start and end time, vacation days, intermediate deadlines, and project slack time for machines and workers. This is a powerful simulation-modeling tool for decision making as well; because the user can address "what if" questions simply by changing input characteristics.

Title: VisiTrend/Plot

Source: VisiCorp

Cost: \$300 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: IBM PC, 128K, disk drive, color graphics monitor adapter, color monitor, printer with graphics capability and graphics dump interface

Description: VisiTrend/Plot produces professional quality graphic displays of tine; bar; pie, and hillow charts, with IBM's superior graphics and mixed text capability. It accepts data manually or from VisiCalc files. Linear multiple regression projections are calculated from VisiCalc data and the projections are graphically presented: Trend projection is done with straight line, smoothing, or moving averages.

Title: WordStar

Source: MicroPro International

Cost: \$495 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II; II+; IIe; with CP/M capability and 80-column card, IBM PC, 48R; I or 2 disk drives, printer

Description: This is generally regarded as one of the better commercial quality word processing systems, although somewhat complicated to master. WordStar is a screen-oriented system, which means that the text will appear on paper as it appears on the screen: While this decreases the amount of text that can be stored as a single file, the advantages of this system are obvious. Word-Star is the single most popular word processing system for the Apple:



# MICROCOMPUTER TRAINING

To assist vocational educators in planning and implementing programs, advisory committees should be represented by industry personnel currently using computers in their operations. Business personnel could also be contracted to teach specialized courses when qualified teachers are not available. In addition, working partnerships with (c at least frequent visits to) local small businesses in the teacher's occupational area that use computers could be excellent sources of information. Beyond this, vocational educators should seek additional microcomputer applications. Just because local farmers; for example, are not using electronic marketing is no reason the agriculture teacher should not organize adult classes on the subject. In fact, that is probably the best reason to do so. Similar examples could be given for any vocational program.

Simply knowing what the uses of the microcomputer are in an occupational area is not enough. Vocational teachers must be able to perform those tasks before they can teach them: There are several ways for teachers to gain the skills needed. Teacher education institutions offer courses and noncredit inservice workshops. State departments of education provide inservice workshops. Computer companies offer free or low-cost classes. Computer users groups have sprung up all over the country. Moreover; most applications software can be self-taught by itsing tutorials in the program documentation, in addition; there are texts and programmed instruction available for using the more popular software packages:

Program planners may benefit also by attending the workshop designed to complement this guide. The workshop is offered by the National Center for Research in Vocational Education. In addition to familiarizing participants with instructional software and software with application for small business management, the workshop is designed to develop skills in systematic program planning.

In short, small businesses are rapidly adopting the microcomputer as a management tool and are in need of intelligent; unbiased advice and instruction on microcomputer use. If schools do not provide this instruction through existing adult education programs, then the microcomputer industry may be small businesses' only source for such instruction.

# Organizational Approaches

Consideration must be given to the infusion of microcomputer training into vocational education at all levels—from prevocational exploratory programs to postsecondary programs to out-of-school programs. Vocational educators frequently think first of traditional in-school groups, ignoring less-structured adult programs. Certainly both of these audiences need and deserve this



Instruction provided by vendors is usually slanted toward the products that they sell:

Adult education has been a traditional function of vocational education for many years, from informal short courses adjunct to the secondary program to structured; certificated programs at the postsecondary level. Following are suggested organizational structures and training methods vocational educators can use in training small business employees and potential employees to use microcomputers.

#### Secondary Level

A number of existing vocational education structures should incorporate inicrocomputer business applications instruction into their curricula. The first and most obvious is the traditional secondary school vocational program.

If the responsibility of secondary-level vocational educators is to train their students for entry-level employment, then instruction in microcomputer applications must be made an integral part of literally every vocational program. The farmer or agribusinessperson; for example, who is not computer literate will be at a serious disadvantage to his or her competitors who have mastered this important management tool. The prospective salesperson who cannot effectively deal with computers will find unnecessary limitations on available jobs.

This is not to imply that all vocational education teachers should teach word processing and other generic office skills in their classrooms and tabs. Clearly this responsibility remains with business and office education. However, the rapid shift toward office automation dictates parallel changes in the traditional business and office education program in the secondary schools. Businesses of all sizes are coming to rely ever more heavily on the computer. In the case of small businesses, this usually means microcomputers because of their lower cost and more ready availability compared to mainframe computers and minicomputers. For the same reasons, this also means microcomputers in the business and office education departments of our secondary schools.

In a lew schools this translates into computer programming and data processing offerings in the business department. In lewer cases, this means separate computer programming and operating offerings under some other vocational service area; normally trades and industry. In still fewer cases, this becomes specialized computer repair courses: All have implications for small business operations that need trained computer technicians; word processor operators, data processing specialists, and other workers whose work involves using computers:

Vocational education teachers have a responsibility to train entry-level workers in occupation-specific functions. For example, workers in virtually every occupational area use computers to perform functions peculiar to that occupation. For example, the tool and die and metals fabrication industries rely upon computer-assisted design (CAD), computer-assisted manufacturing (CAM); and computer-controlled robotics in their operations. No doubt, the future will see more rather than less reliance on computers in this very technical field.

Another traditional program that should be including occupation-specific computer applications is consumer and homemaking education. Diet analysis and planning, household budgeting, family income tax management, investment planning, information networking, and time management planning are just a few of the microcomputer applications that will be important to the homemaker of the future. It is the responsibility of home economics teachers to train their students in these emerging skills,



Order entry, inventory control, and many other computerized functions should be taught in marketing and distributive education. Feed content analysis and enterprise planning should be included in vocational agriculture.

Similar examples could be given for other vocational programs. The important thing to recognize is that it is the responsibility of vocational teachers to train their secondary students to use computers as occupational tools—particularly microcomputers—since they are the most affordable and numerous. This does not mean separate computer courses for each vocational program. Rather; it means using microcomputers as a routine part of the regular courses; just as cash registers; typewriters; welders, and sewing machines have been used as occupational tools. This basic responsibility is the first step in training for the use of microcomputers in small businesses.

#### Postsecondary Programs

Similar logic leads to the same conclusion regarding both credit and noncredit postsecondary programs. At this level instructors train students for specific occupations that currently use computers. Also, as at the secondary level; generic business and office skill instruction is, and should remain, the responsibility of business education departments.

Further, business education departments may need more microcomputers than most other programs. Just as traditional typewriting is rapidly being replaced by word processing, so too must the typewriter eventually be replaced by word processors in the vocational laboratory; And; as record keeping on paper ledgers is rapidly being replaced by computerized accounting systems; so too must vocational educators begin to teach these more advanced skills to students—that is; if these students are to be adequately prepared for occupations in the business world of the future.

As at the secondary level, virtually every postsecondary vocational instructor should be prepared to train students in the occupation-specific computer skills required by their respective industries. One example is the health field. Postsecondary programs training practical nurses, laboratory technicians, emergency medical technicians, and medical and dental office workers cannot afford to ignore the role of computers. The majority of graduates of these programs will go into individual medical offices and small bosinesses where they will no doubt be using microcomputers.

It could be argued that certain workers such as electricians have less need for computer training than do other workers. Such an assertion is valid only to a limited degree. For those workers who find employment in small businesses, it becomes even less valid. The general contractor or subcontractor who must make job cost estimates; maintain inventories; financial records; income tax records, and employee records; develop financial reports; apply for loans; and generally function as a small businessperson, needs to use the microcomputer. Admittedly, small businesspersons may have survived in the past very well without computers. However, in the future the small businessperson who effectively uses the capabilities of the microcomputer will have a decided advantage over the businessperson who relies entirely on paper, pencil, and calculator.

#### Adult Education

It is at the level of adult education that vocational educators can have the most immediate impact on the small business community. Large industries invest many millions of dollars annually in updating, training, or retraining their workers, whereas small businesses must rely on either



public or proprietary educational systems; particularly vocational education, to provide training for their workers.

Adult education programs traditionally have been real-world, problem-oriented, short courses offered periodically under the auspices of vocational education. The advent of microcomputer technology now provides an additional real-world problem that deserves immediate attention by all vocational educators. Examples of program areas and appropriate courses for adults are as follows:

- The business instructor at both secondary and postsecondary levels should offer word processing and automated data processing courses on their microcomputers.
- The industrial arts teacher should teach robotics and CAD/CAM for small business.
- The agriculture teacher should teach farm management and decision making through the Young Farmer program or other adult programs.
- The automotive instructor should teach automated parts management.
- The marketing teacher should teach inventory control on the microcomputer.

#### Training Methods

In teaching computer use, there are three specific training methods, or approaches to instruction; that can be utilized by vocational educators. These are computer-assisted instruction (CAI), in-school businesses, and the project approach to instruction.

#### Computer-assisted instruction (CAI)

One intriguing capability of the microcomputer is its ability to interact with its user. This characteristic allows the machine to give instruction. This approach is called computer-assisted instruction and consists of any actual instruction that a computer presents to the learner.

CAI can take many forms. The simplest form is drill and practice. A drill and practice CAI package teaches a specific skill to the student by reinforced repetitions of the task. For small businesspersons, this is exemplified by various typing instructional packages available for most major microcomputers today. These typing packages teach typing by means of practice sessions of increasing difficulty; keep track of learner progress; and administer typing tests; score them; and point out areas of strength and weakness. Thus, businesspeople who need to learn or improve their typing can do so without attending formal classes.

A somewhat higher level of learning can be accomplished by means of CAI tutorials. A tutorial package teaches cognitive or psychomotor skills. Many of the better commercial applications software packages include tutorial materials as a part of the initial purchase. Often these include not only computer software, but also written tutorial materials. A large number of CAI tutorials are available to teach concepts not limited to specific applications software. Several major microcomputer manufacturers have tutorials that teach users how to write their own programs.

The form of CAI that takes most advantage of the computer's inherent capabilities is the simulation. A simulation is simply a model designed to represent some real-life situation. Typical simulation.



lations use mathematical models to allow learners to respond to a particular situation and then tell students what the probable result of their responses would have been. A variety of microcomputer CAI simulations are available today to teach economic and business concepts and skills, and several are reviewed in the next section.

Although excellent commercial CAI simulations are available, probably the most valuable instructional program for the small businesspeople is one that applies to their actual situations. For example, the most useful simulations are those that vocational teachers can develop using business programs such as electronic spreadsheets. The use of commercial applications software in this mode does not take up that much extra time. Essentially, the teacher constructs sample data sets and then enters them on an electronic spreadsheet such as VisiCalc, MagicCalc, and SuperCalc. By varying any parts of the data in class; the instructor can show the probable results of real-world business decisions. As an example, a farmer may be interested in the effects of deleting an acre of corn and adding an acre of soybeans. By using such a spreadsheet, the adult agriculture teacher not only teaches the farmer the value of adequate records and how to construct budgets, but can answer numerous "what II" questions.

#### In-School Businesses

One of the long-standing teaching tools of vocational education has been the in-school business. Whether the school store that sells student supplies, the auto shop that performs live work; or the greenhouse that sells plants to the public, such enterprises offer opportunities for vocational students to learn real-world skills in structured settings. The teacher who makes all the management decisions without student input is missing a great teaching vehicle. Moreover, as microcomputers continue to invade the small business world, it is incumbent upon the vocational teachers to ensure that their students receive realistic training—and that means business-related computer experience.

Does that mean teaching vocational students to program computers? Must every vocational teacher become a computer programmer? Hardly! It would be difficult to imagine a more superflucus skill for the average vocational teacher or student. However, it does mean learning to operate the computer as one learns to operate a typewriter or a duplicating machine; it does mean learning to run a business applications program as one would learn to play a videotape or fill out a records book.

Additionally, the school farm equipment inventory, depreciation schedule; financial records; and production records should be computerized and the students should learn to operate the programs. The school store should computerize its inventory control, purchasing, and financial records and the students should perform the routine data processing and analysis functions. Every vocational area operating any type of school business should computerize its business operations and teach its students to access, use, and analyze those records. This not only allows for a more efficient operation of the school business, the student gains additional job skills.

#### Project Approach

Much work has been done in recent years regarding entrepreneurship training in vocational education. This concept does not differ substantively from the farm project approach traditionally used in vocational agriculture before the Smith-Hughes Act of 1917 was enacted. For the purposes of this guide, these approaches will be referred to collectively as the project approach:



In the project approach to instruction, students are expected to establish and manage their own business enterprises. It may be as small as operating a newspaper route, or it can be as large as carrying out a farming operation. Regardless of its nature, all of the responsibilities, risks, and opportunities normally inherent in small business operation accrue to the students, except on a smaller scale and with the advantage of a teacher to provide advice and guidance.

Students who have accepted the responsibility to carry out business enterprises on their own, and who stand to earn or lose money as a result of their efforts, are easily motivated. The project approach provides an ideal vehicle to train future entrepreneurs to use microcomputers in small business operation. In fact, it is in this setting that the microcomputer becomes most valuable. Keeping project records, expenses, receipts; and customer and vendor lists: preparing business correspondence; and performing other routine business operations are perfect examples. In general: students like to work with computers. For the student with profit as the additional motivation, the value of the microcomputer as a business tool makes learning business applications software important: Although this approach would not be appropriate for use with a small business operator or manager; it does provide excellent preparation for potential employees of small businesses.



# INSTRUCTIONAL SOFTWARE REVIEWS

Instructional software differs in both form and substance from business applications software. The former is concerned with user self motivation, instruction, evaluation, and feedback. It must be attractive and often relies on graphics and sound effects. The latter assumes user motivation; provides instruction only in the documentation; and is concerned with performing a function efficiently. For more explanation of these differences, see the section entitled Evaluation of Software.

Following is an alphabetical listing and description of selected instructional software packages available for teaching concepts and skills in small business management. Each review includes title, source, cost, hardware requirements; and description. Sources' addresses and phone numbers are in appendix A.

#### Guide to Instructional Software Reviews

Title	Päge
Accounting Applications for the Microcomputer ::::	75
Advertising Techniques	7.0
Agriculture Marketing and Commodity Features :	7.5
A Microcomputer Testing Program For Accounting: Systems and Procedures	213
Automated Accounting for the Microcomputer ;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;;	Z13
Business Education Package I	<b>Z</b> 3
Business Education Package II	43
Business Education Package III	. 44
Business Volume I	· · · āā
Business Volume II - Payroll	- 44
Business Volume III - Accounting	45
Cartels & Cutthroats	ĀĒ
Change Maker	35
Data Entry Activities for the Microcomputer	· · ÄĒ
The Electronic Spreadsheet ::	46
Enterprise Sandwich Shops :::::::	35
Free Enterprise:	38
KeyStrokes ::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	27
Market Trend Program::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::::	2/7
Metro Office Systems: A Computerized Pay off Application	27
Microcomputer Accounting Applications:::::::::	27
Microcomputer Activities for Record Keeping :::::::	21克
Profit & Loss	AB.
The Shoebox Accounting Practice Set	. 48



Title	age
Sounds Abound: An Accounting Simulation for Microcomputer and Manual	
Application	. 49
Using the VisiCalc Program	40
	. 40

Title: Accounting Applications for the Microcomputer

Source: Gregg/McGraw-Hill

Cost: Check with vendor

Hardware Requirements: Apple II; II+; IIe; S2K; TRS-80 Model III, 2 disk drives, printer

Description: This tutorial and simulation teaches the student concepts and procedures in general ledger, accounts receivable, accounts payable, and payroll. This is not a self-contained course; but should be used as a supplement to regular instruction in accounting or computerized accounting.

Title: Advertising Techniques

Source: Micro LearningWare

Cosi: \$24.95 (ās of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II; II+; IIe, minimum 32K; disk drive

Description: This tutorial package teaches general advertising concepts rather than providing realistic "how to" instruction for small businesspeople who need to learn how to do their own advertising; however, it would serve as an introduction to the topic:

Title: Agriculture Marketing and Commodity Futures

Source: Micro LearningWare

Cost: \$449 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, disk drive; printer

Description: Although this software is actually designed as an industry applications package, it provides totorial materials and can easily be used with real or simulated data to teach farm management decision making. Included are programs to compare storage alternatives, new crop alternatives; and livestock alternatives; to maintain storage, crop; and livestock budgets; and to examine and maintain up to ten future accounts.



Title: A Microcomputer Testing Program for Accounting: Systems and Procedures

Source: Gregg/McGraw-Hill

Cost: \$175 for 4-disk set; \$2,40 for teacher's manual (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, IIe, TRS-80 Model III, disk drive, printer

Description: This is an objective test covering concepts and skills learned in the accompanying text. The program gives immediate feedback to students and prints class reports for the teacher.

Title: Automated Accounting for the Microcomputer

Source: South-Western Publishing

Cost: Individual student diskette for \$37.50 (only available to one student at a time); driver program for \$59.50 that allows any number of students to use the program; text and workbook for \$6.83 (advanced version that allows networking to a teacher-controlled computer available for TRS-80 Model III & IV only) (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II; II+; IIe; TRS-80 Model I & II, 32K, disk drive, printer

Description: In this computer program system for teaching automated accounting, the student moves through ten chapters, while receiving related classroom instruction specified in the teacher's manual. Simulations with tutorial materials are used to teach computerized general ledger, processing journal entries, production of financial statements; accounts receivable, accounts payable, and payroll.

Title: Business Education Package I

Source: Micro LearningWare

Cost: \$24.95 complete (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, IIE, TRS-80 Model I & III; 32K when used with disk; 16K required for TRS-80 cassette version, printer optional

Description: A combined tutorial and simulation, this package teaches students how to calculate loan amortization, bank statement reconciliation, and depreciation in three separate programs. A fourth program provides a stock market simulation game.

Title: Business Education Package II

Source: Micro LearningWare

Cost: \$24.95 complete (as of 12/1/83)



Hardware Requirements: TRS-80 Model I & III, disk and 32K or cassette and 16K

Description: A tutorial provides instruction in basic accounting concepts such as the T-account, double entry journals, ledgers, and financial statements. A simulation of a general ledger allows students to make entries and to display but not print trial balances; account balances, and financial statements. An additional program allows students to calculate annuity values based on amount invested, interest rate, and amount and frequency of withdrawals.

#### Title Business Education Package III

Source: Micro LearningWare

Cost: \$24.95 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, IIe, II+, TRS-50 Model I & III, disk drive; 32K; printer

Description: This package contains a complete general ledger system. Essentially it is an applications package; except that it includes two complete simulation project sets with solutions.

Title: Business Volume I

Source: MECC

Cost: \$37 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II (32K), disk drive

Description: This is a collection of practical programs—i.e., Interest on installment buying, effects of simple and compound interest; loan amortization, business financial reports, money supply, payroll, and the 1040A form—that are useful in a variety of business education settings. A tutorial format is used.

Title: Business Volume II - Payroll

Source: MECO

Cost: \$39 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II; 32K; two disk drives, printer

Description: A simulation allows the class to set up and operate a complete payroll for a hypothetical company's automated payroll, print checks; and prepare quarterly reports and W-2 forms



Title: Business Volume III - Accounting

Source: MECC

ost: \$56 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, 32K, disk drive, 132-column printer

Description: A simulation provides students with structured experiences on accounts payable, accounts receivable, general ledger, and inventory control systems. The set includes source documents from which students extract information. Complete sets of reports are returned to students in printed form.

Title: Cartels & Cutthroats

Source: Strategic Simulations

Cost: \$39.95 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II; II+; IIe; 48K

Description: This is a business management simulation game designed for use at either high school or college level. The game accepts up to six players or teams: Each player is required to set production levels, purchase raw inaterials; set selling price; make advertising decisions, and perform several management functions. In addition, the program provides complicating factors with which companies must contend, such as strikes, technological advances, changing interest rates, and others. Each player receives profit and loss statements; balance sheets; sales reports; and other management reports.

Title: Change Maker

Source: Micro LearningWare

Cost: \$8.95 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, IIe, disk drive, 32K

Description: In this very simple drill and practice for making change, the student is given no instruction in how to make change, but must practice listing the correct number of pennies, nickles; and so forth, given a cost and amount tendered.

Title: Data Entry Activities for the Microcomputer

Source: South-Western Publishing

Cost: \$59.50 for diskette; \$4.16 for text and workbook (as of 12/1/83)



Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, IIe, TRS-80 Model I and III, minimum 32K, disk drive

Description: Through a sequence of eleven progressive learning activities guided by a workbook with problems and solutions, the students look at the history of data entry; inventory control; accounts receivable, accounts payable, bank statement reconciliation, payroll, general ledger, and point-of-sale terminals. The teacher's manual includes exams and answers.

Title: The Electronic Spreadsheet

Source: MECC

Cost: \$42 for software; \$4:50 for student's manual (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II; disk drive, printer (user supplies VisiCalc)

Description: This tutorial introduces the student to the VisiCalc spreadsheet and its commands and provides practice problems along with solution sheets. The diskette includes templates for use in solution some of the practice problems. Problems are grouped for use in specific business courses.

Title. Enterprise Sandwich Shops

Source: Greng/McGraw-Hill

Cost: \$199 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, IIe, TRS-80 Moder III; minimum 32K, disk drive, printer

Description: In this simulation game of a small-business operation; the student is required to make purchasing, advertising, and pricing decisions. Seasonal demand shifts are taken into account, as well as spoilage, personnel decisions, equipment, and inventory.

Tille: Free Enterprise

Source: SRA Software

Cost: \$100 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II+ (48K), IBM PC (64K), disk drive, printer

Description: This is a simulation of competing companies making the same product. Up to six students or groups of students are allowed to compete against each other. The measure of success is overall profit or some other agreed-upon criterion.



Title. KeyStrokes

Source. Houghton Mifflin

Cost: \$30 for user's manual and diskette, \$2.25 for teacher's manual (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II+, Apple IIe; IBM PC; TRS-80 Model III, disk drive, printer

Description: This drill and practice touch-typing package teaches keyboard skills in an increasingly difficult progression. It uses real prose rather than "nonsense" letters. This package is suitable for the beginner who needs to learn the keyboard and the advanced student who needs to improve speed and accuracy.

Title: Market Trend Program

Source: Southern Minnesota Software

Cost: \$19.95 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: TRS-80 Model I or III, 16K; disk drive or cassette recorder

Description: A very simple applications package, this program allows the user to track stock market highs: lows, closes, and volumes on a daily or weekly basis. It is useful as a class activity with real data as a teaching tool.

Title: Metro Office Systems: A Computerized Payroli Application

Source: Gregg/McGraw-Hill

Cost: \$110 for software, \$4 for student's manual, \$4 for teacher's manual and key (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, IIe, TRS-80 Model III, 2 disk drives, printer

Description: This package was designed for use with the software package Payroll Records and Procedures by the same manufacturer. Students use a practice set of source documents and other data to construct computerized payroll for a simulated company.

Title: Microcomputer Accounting Applications

Source: Gregg/McGraw-Hill

Cost: \$150 for software, \$4.20 for text and workbook, \$2.52 for teacher's manual (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II; II+; IIe; TRS-80 Model III, disk drive, printer



Description: This simulation allows students to apply accounting procedures taught in a regular class setting to gain experience in computerized accounts receivable, accounts payable, payroll, and general ledger:

# Title: Microcomputer Activities for Recordkeeping

Source: Houghton Mifflin

Cost: \$4.50 for student activities book, \$59.97 for 2 diskettes, \$2.25 for teacher's manual (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II+, Apple IIe, IBM PC TRS-80 Model III; disk drive; printer

Description: In this simulation of eight entry-level, record-keeping transactions: the student uses source documents such as invoices and purchase orders to produce a daily sales report; cash receipts summary, cash payments summary, purchase order register, payroll register; and weekly time report.

Title: Profit & Loss

Source: Gregg/McGraw-Hill

Cost: \$99 complete package (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II; Apple II+, Apple IIe, TRS-80 Model III, minimum 32R, disk drive, printer

Description: Profit & Loss is a simulation game of the operation of a small business, it requires students to make business decisions, particularly with regard to pricing, supply-and-demand relationships, advertising, and the interpretation of income statements.

Title: The Shoebox Accounting Practice Set

Source: Grego/McGraw-Hill

Cost: Check with manufacturer

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, II+, IIE, TRS-80 Model III; 2 disk drives, printer

Description: Students are given practice sets of source documents from which they extract data for analysis and decision making. Students set up a simulated accounting system for a hypothetical small business.



Title: Sounds Abound: An Accounting Simulation for Microcomputer and Manual Application

Source: Houghton Mifflin

Cost: \$3.39 for text and workbook, \$29.97 for diskette, \$2.25 for teacher's manual (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II+; Apple IIe, IBM PC, TRS-80 Model III, disk drive, printer

Description: A simulation of accounting records of a business, this package includes source documents, accompanying stationary, and instructions:

Title: Typing Tulor

Source: MicroSoft Consumer Products

Cost: Approximately \$30 (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: Apple II, IIF; IIe; TRS-80 Model I and III, IBM PC, disk drive or cassette

Description: Currently the single most popular keyboard drill and practice, this package uses non-sense letters in a progressively difficult sequence to teach touch-typing skills and to develop speed and accuracy. The keyboard is monitored twenty times per second to keep track of learner's familiarity with Individual keys. Speed, percentage accuracy, and number of mistakes are displayed for the student. It is useful for anyone who needs to learn or relearn typing without attending formal typing classes.

Title: Using the VisiCalc Program

Source: SRA Software

Cost: \$70 complete (user supplies VisiCalc) (as of 12/1/83)

Hardware Requirements: IBM PC, 64K, 2 disk drives (user must have VisiCalc package to use this instructional package)

Description: This tutorial teaches the user to use VisiCalc to perform general business operations It includes eight predetermined applications models ready for actual business use.



### **EVALUATION OF SOFTWARE**

As previously stated, there are some 21,000 commercial software packages already on the market. The Business Software Matrix in this guide; lists over fifty software packages for some of the functional areas that are available for just one microcomputer. One researcher estimated that 150 new packages were developed each month in early 1983 and that this figure would rise to 250 new packages each month by late 1984. No wonder potential software purchasers often are overwhelmed when attempting to select software packages.

The purpose of this section is to answer specific questions concerning the purchase of software and to suggest criteria that will guide the selection process. Efficient use of software is not possible without giving consideration to software evaluation. A systematic means for assessing various software aspects such as hardware requirements, documentation; and content is required. This section describes also a software evaluation system designed for vocational educators and provides sample rating forms:

#### Software Purchase Overview

If you are in the process of buying software packages for your business or for home use (and especially if you are a novice), you may find the following commonly asked questions/answers concerning software purchase both informative and beneficial to the task.

# 1: What are you getting when you pay \$535 for a software package?

The typical software purchaser assumes that such a purchase carries with it all rights associated with ownership, but that is not usually the case. Most developers do not actually sell their software; rather they license the right to use their software diskette to the purchaser; while maintaining ownership of the diskette and the program contained on it. The purchase price of such software is not a purchase in the traditional sense of the word, but is more like a one-time rental fee. Such an arrangement is called a program license fee.

# 2. Can I copy the program or change it to suit my particular needs?

Since the software remains the property of the developer, its contents are not legally the property of the renter and as such cannot be legally copied, modified, or in any other way tampered with by the renter. Even when the vendor actually sells the software to a purchaser and conveys ownership; the program itself is almost invariably copyrighted. In fact, the developer's prohibitions often prevent purchasers from even making backups for their own use. These prohibitions may extend to using the same package in more than one location or on more than one computer in the same office.



# 3. How do software producers protect their products from pirating?

In a further effort to prevent unauthorized software copying, or pirating, most developers "copy protect" their products with an assortment of programming and production techniques, it is possible to copy virtually any diskette using either specially written copy programs or hardware that has been specifically developed for that purpose. However, such activities are Illegal and, as such, are certainly not good practice for a small business operator. Thus, when you purchase most software packages; you are purchasing or renting a single or perhaps an original and a "backup" diskette containing a program or series of programs designed to perform some function.

# 4. What provisions are provided by software producers for updating and opgrading software packages?

Many types of programs perform functions that change frequently. For instance, tax packages are based on regulations that change with every new Internal Revenue Service update. For this reason, reputable developers and vendors of such software packages frequently provide a "maintenance" or "update" service. Typical provisions allow the purchaser to purchase such updates for less than the normal fee. In some cases, the vendor may provide such a service on a cost-recovery basis. This can be an important consideration in software purchases.

## 5. What does source code mean?

Source code is the hard copy (printed) listing of a program. Without a listing, it is impossible for the user to make any customizing modifications to the program. If the developer/manufacturer allows the purchaser to make sur, i modifications; a copy of the source code is required. One program described in the scriware section lists a source code fee. This fee is not normally included in the license fee and can be substantial. As another alternative some developers/manufacturers prohibit the purchaser from making such alterations but provide such services themselves. Customizing fees can be based on a set amount or on an hourly rate for programming time.

# 6. What documentation updates can be expected?

As a rule; the purchaser receives a complete set of documentation (written instructions and explanations) with the original fee: This is not always the case, and additional documentation may be available at an additional charge. Further, as revisions are made to the basic documentation, the manufacturer may (or may not) provide it to existing licensees at reduced costs or free. This is an additional source of software costs that does not appear on the package.

# 7. How can knowing the reputation of the vendor be advantageous?

Another hidden source of potential cost lies in the financial position of the manufacturer it is such a new industry that virtually anybody can sell software. This means there are many software manufacturers with less than stable business foundations. When one of those manufacturers declares bankruptcy, the software is routinely considered as one of the manufacturer's assets by the court. This eventuality could result in your having to repurchase rights to the software, this time from the manufacturer's creditors. Thus it is important to consider the reputation of the vendor as you make software decisions.



#### 8. Will user support be provided?

User support can be extremely important. The developer/manufacturer who licenses software to you and then provides no mechanism to answer your questions or to provide advice and assistance should be viewed with suspicion in expensive software purchases. No matter how good the documentation, there will always be unforeseen problems and questions. A "hotline" using an 800 number for toll-free questions is a common service of the larger software companies.

#### Evaluation Criteria for Business Software

With the overwhelming supply of business software currently on the market, it is important for users to know what to look for in software packages, based, of course, on their particular needs and resources. The following criteria and discussion have been identified to help users evaluate and make appropriate software selection.

#### Motivational Incentives

Software developed for business purposes is typically free of many of the attention-getting gimmicks that characterize instructional software. Business software seldom uses graphics except for presentation of data and is usually presented on monochrome screens; it relies on the inherent incentive of the profit motive to drive its users and rarely; if ever; uses such personal touches as addressing the user by name. Business software, in other words; is practical and straightforward.

Prisiness software must be simple to use and contain enough internal prompts to keep the user on track. Most users find that menu-driven software is easier to use than other formats. Menu driven means that the program returns throughout its operation to a list of the user's options and asks the user to specify which step is desired next. PFS:File, for instance, is menu driven. Whenever the user completes any operation; the program returns to the menu and presents the following options: (1) create file; (2) add form; (3) copy file, (4) search, (5) print, or (6) remove. These are all or the things that the program can do and the user must select one of them before proceeding. When one is selected, the program displays another menu that specifies all the ways it can perform that task. This format leads the user from one step to the next while decreasing the probability of human error.

If software is not menu driven, the user must remember or look up the command for each operation, such as saving files or for reading the catalog of files on the disk. This does not present a problem if the package is used frequently, because the operator quickly learns the commands when using them regularly. One disadvantage of menu-driven software is that additional programming is required to display and operate the menu itself. This may occupy memory space in the computer that could be used for working space. Thus, nonmenu-driven software can be more efficient users of memory, but menu-driven software can be easier to use.

#### Reliability

An additional characteristic particularly important to business software is reliable operation. Business decisions based on systematically wrong analyses can be potentially devastating. Yet that is just what can happen if incorrect formulas or procedures are programmed into a business.



software package. An astute businessperson will not rely on new software for sensitive analyses until it has proven itself accurate by trial runs of sample data with known results. Reviews by reliable software critics may satisfy this requirement. Additionally, trial runs of a software package can uncover instances where the package simply does not do what it is supposed to do for a given situation and set of instructions: Again; reliable reviewers can help in this regard. Reputable software developers and manufacturers are probably the best safeguard against problems of this kind. A reputable manufacturer who discovers errors in its programs can be expected to correct those errors at no or little cost to the licensee. License agreements should indicate vendor policy on this matter.

#### Documentation

The first tangible evidence of quality can be noted in the program's documentation. While no amount of documentation can make a poor program into a good one, inadequate documentation can make even the best business software unusable. In the early years of the computer age, documentation for computer software was written largely by programmers for users who were familiar with computer operation, not for the general public. That was adequate until the microcomputer revolution made the general public into microcomputer users. Most small business carsons do not have the time, inclination, or need to become experts on computers. For that is son, the documentation of any business software should be carefully examined before purchase. Further, documentation should be clear, concise, and written in plain language.

Documentation should also contain tutorial materials that lead the ...scr through the solution c. a sample problem or an exercise. Examples are often more valuable to the beginning program user than the clearest of instructions: If examples are given, they should work. It is amazing how often sample problems listed in software documentation simply do not work when the user tries to runthem. Disk operating systems (DOS) change: Microcomputer models change. Instructions valid for one printer and interface combination are not correct for other combinations. The documentation should take these variations into account.

#### User Friendliness

A software package is said to be user friendly when it is easy to use. A user-friendly program prompts users whenever they make mistakes, it is forgiving of ignorance and mistakes. It does not suddenly abort a run, rudely inform the user that an error has been made, and discard all the data that been in memory. Programs do all of these things unless the programmer foresees all the possible errors and accounts for them in the development stage. To test for user friendliness; try making a mistake. Do something that is obviously inappropriate. The more user friendly the program; the more likely it is that the computer will correct you.

Another aspect of user friendliness is in the degree to which the program is self-explanatory. VisiCalc is very unforgiving of mistakes; it simply refuses to accept any responses that it does not expect. For example, in the attempt to replicate a row of figures, if the user fails to enter one of a very limited selection of acceptable responses; the program simply returns to the spreadsheet and makes a crude beeping sound. It does not tell the user that a mistake has been made or even hint as to the nature of the mistake. In this sense, it is not very user friendly and the documentation must make up for this shortcoming or the user can experience great frustration.



#### Reproducibility\*

As was pointed out earlier, many software developers prohibit or even physically prevent the user from making duplicate copies of programs. This means that if the user needs to use the software package in more than one place at a time, two copies will need to be purchased. For instance, the small businessperson who plans to use a general accounting package at the office, another copy at home, and even a third copy at the bookkeeper's home, will have to make copies of the program or spend an additional \$400-\$600 for the third copy. (A backup copy is normally provided with each purchase.)

On the other hand, some manufacturers allow users to make additional copies for their own use. This corporate generosity is not required and should certainly not be abused. For persons contemplating purchasing expensive business software, reproducibility might be a determining factor in the pecision-making process.

## Evaluation Criteria for Instructional Software

Likewise, there are criteria germane to software developed for instructional purposes. It is lowing discussion will aid users in evaluating and selecting instructional software appropriate to their particular needs and resources.

#### Motivational incentives

Whereas business software can rely on internally motivated users; the same is certainly not true of instructional software. This category of programs must use an array of attention-getting and motivational devices to maintain user interest. Graphics are essential in quality instructional software. (Color graphics are probably even better.) On the IBM, graphics are simply not possible without the color adapter board; so this can be a problem on microcomputers purchased strictly for business purposes. Beeps, whirring sounds; flashing displays, and moving drawings certainly add to the attractiveness of instructional software:

An additional consideration in this area is the personalization possible with interactive programming. The well-designed, instructional program doesn't just say, "Invalid response", it says, "I'm sorry, Bob, but that isn't right. Perhaps you should review that part again."

Another important motivational aspect of instructional software lies in the area of error proofing Because computer instruction is frequently individualized; it is essential that the teacher be able to leave the student with the computer with the confidence that a mistake, either accidental or intentional; will not cause the program to abort.

Finally, the instructional format the program presents may be an influencing factor on a purchaser's decision to buy. Instructional software can take one or any combination of the following forms:

 Drill and practice packages allow the student to repeat a carefully regulated task until the skill is mastered or until proficiency is attained. Examples are the numerous typewriting programs, math drills, and language drills available.



<sup>&</sup>quot;The term used in computer-users" jargon is "copyability"

- Tutorials present cognitive material, teach concepts, or provide remedial instruction.
   These often resemble electronic, interactive books:
- Simulations use models to represent other situations. An example of a simulation is the
  Enterprise Sandwich Shops software package reviewed under instructional Software
  Reviews, which sets up a model of a business to teach economic and management concepts, skills, and attitudes. The student makes inputs and receives feedback based on the
  results of that input

#### Documentation

The documentation for instructional software is usually not as detailed as that for business software. Except for some complex single lations, it need not supply such intricate details for the user, because instructional software must be more user friendly than business software. Business software performs a function and the ser learns to use it proficiently. The basic purpose of instructional software is to leach something; and any time spent fearning to use the package is time lost from the central goal of its ining that task; concept, or skill.

For this reason, documentation should be as simple and brief as possible. It must contain all the information required by the student to run the package, and a description of what the package does, but no more. In the case of simulations, particularly very complex ones, sample problems with correct solutions may be supplied. Everything also should be contained in the program itself. It is not unusual for documentation of tutorials to contain of by the information needed for a novice to turn on the computer and begin running the program. This is clearly inadequate documentation since it falls to indicate the purpose of the program or its intended, audience.

#### User Friendliness

User friendliness is even more important in instructional software than it is in business software. This is because, as discussed earlier, the user of instructional software is probably a one-time user of a particular package; whereas the user of a business package trains to build proficiency in using a particular package; Jost as the documentation for a business package must be very thorough, instructional packages must be very user friendly.

When input is required from the student; it should be requested clearly and in plain language. The student should not have to look up the format or command for the next input. Exceptions to this generalization are possible as in the case of some complex simulations; but in general this is a valid requirement.

Variety in presentation is important also. Any good teacher knows that students learn better when the material is presented in a variety of ways. A sixty-minute fecture or reading session can be deadly to the interest level of any class. By the same token, instructional packages should display a variety of formats. The student should be required to alternate between reading material, studying illustrations, responding to questions, and receiving feedback throughout the program

Personalization is an important aspect of interactive computer-assisted instruction (CAI). Use of the student's name can be a good motivator. In addition, requiring students to enter their names allows the program to record the results of each student's efforts. Most good interactive CAI packages provide checks of the student's progress by asking questions or presenting problems to



which the learner must respond. By keeping track of the percentage of correct and incorrect responses for each student, the program can provide the instructor with valuable progress reports and at the same time give the learner continual feedback.

#### Reproducibility

Reproducibility is probably even more important to educators than businesspersons. School budgets are always tight and once funds are allocated, there are usually no more forthcoming. Moreover, the number of students who will be using a package at one time can be very large. For instance, a word processing class may need thirty to fifty copies of a program such as WordStar. At \$495 (as of 12/1/83) per package, thirty copies would be quite expensive. Some software manufacturers allow schools to make additional copies of programs. This consideration must be taken into account when making purchasing decisions for instructional software. Such a corporate policy is quite generous, and instructors should be careful not to violate the conditions of such copying or risk losing the privilege.

Also; many software packages are written in such a way that; once loaded into the machine, the diskette can be removed and the program loaded into more machines. Teachers should be aware that this is a violation of standard software leasing agreements which limit the use of any given diskette to a single machine. Again, some manufacturers allow the use of their prickages in multiple machines for schools only. This corporate policy is also very generous and the limitations imposed by the manufacturer should be strictly observed.

#### Systematic Software Evaluation

Selection of quality software is of prime importance to vocational education curriculum planners. Limited resources mandate systematic software evaluation. A systematic approach to software evaluation ensures that standardized criteria are used in comparing all software packages under purchase consideration.

In response to the need for a systematic approach to evaluating software, the Office of Adult and Vocational Education, U.S. Department of Education; sponsored a study designated to result in a system (Instrument and guide) for evaluating courseware (computer instructional programs and support materials) for vocational education. More information about this project may be obtained from the National Center for Research in Vocational Education.

In the absence of a tested evaluation instrument to facilitate evaluation of business software packages, program planners are urged to use some sort of standardized checklist. Sample forms designed by the authors for use in rating business and instructional software are presented in appendix C.



# **TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

For years, airline ticket agents have been able to check seat vacancies and make reservations by directly accessing a central computer. Researchers could turn on their terminals and talk directly with computers in another building or even another city. By the early 1980s; farm management groups, real estate agencies, stock brokers, medical groups, and literally hundreds of other groups had established computer networks for business and recreational use. All that was required was a mainfraine computer with communications ports and terminals connected to the central computer by a direct line (more recently a telephone line).

The remote unit used in the above situations is known as a dumb terminal. The term dumb is applied because the terminal cannot do any of the electronic thinking which characterizes a computer. Since these terminals cannot store information to send it in batches, or perform routine computations, all their work involves actual connect time to the mainframe, which means additional cost for computer time and telephone use.

The advent of the microcomputer offers answers to both of these problems. In terms of cost, microcomputers range from \$100 to \$10,000 and an additional \$100 to \$400 will give them telecommunication capabilities. If the small business already has microcomputers, then telecommunications becomes much more affordable. In terms of flexibility, the microcomputer is a thinking computer with all the power of a room-size computer of just a few years ago.

This section deals with the equipment requirements for telecommunications and the implications networking and telecommunicating have for the small business.

#### Requirements

The first requirement for telecommunications is a microcomputer capable of accepting and transmitting data through a communications port: For the three computers discussed in this publication, telecommunication capability is a significant feature:

Required hardware consists of a communications interface board (or card) and modem unit. The communications board is used to convert the computer's symbols (ASCI) codes expressed in bytes) into a sequential series of impulses (bits) and to direct them to the modem and a telephone. The modem (MOdulator/DEModulator) then converts these bits of information to electrical impulses of varying currents that can be transmitted over the telephone line. The receiving modem reconverts the impulses into ASCII codes expressed in bytes and feeds them into its attached microcomputer. The receiving computer reassembles the code into information it can use:

There are two types of modems: the acoustic coupler modem and the direct-connect modem. The acoustic coupler modem generates sounds that are converted to electrical impulses by the telephone and are then carried just like your voice is carried. If you were to listen through the other end, you would hear a series of beeps and clicks. The direct-connect modem does not generate sounds, but generates the impulses directly into the telephone line.



The acoustic coupler modem requires a regular telephone, which rests in a cradle in the modem unit. The direct-connect unit plugs into the telephone jack and requires a standard phone company cord to connect to the modem. Although the acoustic coupler is the older system, the direct-connect has all of the advantages and none of the disadvantages of the acoustic coupler type. It is more reliable, less trouble; and less expensive. Also, by purchasing a double jack outlet for the wall telephone, both telephone and microcomputer can be connected to the same wall jack and used without having to disconnect and reconnect the units.

Selecting a modem can be a complicated matter because a number of good ones are available. Important features to look for include—

- the modem's ability to answer incoming calls so that the phone can be left unattended.
- an adjustable band rate (this is the rate at which the modern can accept and translate data; both sending and receiving moderns must be "talking" at the same rate);
- · a modem that can both originate (send) and answer, and
- the capability to download and upload.

Once the modern has been selected, communications software is needed to assist in sending and capturing messages. Some software allows users to take data from the sending computer and save it on their own disks; or to print the incoming information as it is being captured. Some of the large databases have their own software that is necessary in order to utilize their services fully.

Finally, a communications port; or database, is needed to complete the telecommunications process. Although there are hundreds of commercial data bases, there are three that overshadow the telecommunications market (Grossbrenner 1983): As part of their regular services, they provide their customers with access to many other databases. These three databases are—

- . The Source, operated by Reader's Digest, McLean; Virginia;
- · CompuServe, operated as a subsidiary of H&R Block; Columbus; Ohio;
- The Dow Jones News/Retrieval Service (DJNS), owned by Dow Jones: Inc.

In addition: a database vendor that may be of special interest to vocational educators is BRS (Bibliographical Retrieval Services), operated from Latham, New York. This vendor accesses numerous educational resources; for example—

- ERIC (Educational Research Information Center), ERIC Clearinghouse on Adult, Career, and Vocational Education; The National Center for Research in Vocational Education, Columbus, Onio;
- BIVE (Research in Vocational Education); National Center Clearinghouse, The Natical Center for Research in Vocational Education; Columbus Ohio;
- · SPIN (School Practices Information Network); BRS; Eatham; New York; and
- . SPIF (School Practices Information File), BRS, Latham, New York.



Probably the one most important database to the typical small businessperson is Dow Jones News Service (DJNS). A subscription to DJNS puts the user on-line with such publications as the Wall Street Journal and Barron's; current quotes from the floor of The New York, American, Midwest, and Pacific Stock Exchanges—at the same time the information is available to stockbrokers: Weekly Economic Survey from Money Market Services, Inc.; The Media General DataBank that includes more than fifty-eight statistics on each of the 3,200 companies listed; Wall Street Week; and The Academic American Encyclopedia.

There are also many special purpose databases, for example, medical, legal, accounting, sociology, and library databases. Banking systems, specifically large banks, are beginning to use telecommunications for electronic banking. This will no doubt expand over the next few years.

For further information, "Getting the Best from Data Banks" (Grosswirth 1993, p. 111) provides a listing of on-line commercial databases, and the appendix of The Complete Handbook of Personal Computer Communications (Grossbrenner 1983) gives an excellent summary of on-line databases.

# Networking Implications

Perhaps the single most important implication of the telecommunications revolution lies in the area of microcomputer networking. Free computer bulletin boards (CBB) are operated by computer software companies; hardware companies, and hobbyists all over the country. All that is needed to get into one of these is a telephone number and a password. An extensive directory of free CBBs is available from (Grossbrenner 1983):

J. A. Cambron Company; Inc. P.O. Boy 10005 Kansas City, MO 64111 (816) 756-1847

Also, an on-line directory is available from Novation Inc. (Grossbrenner 1983). [Dial (215) 881-6680 and type in CAT when "log on" appears on the screen:]

As more small businesspersons become comfortable with their microcomputers and modems, networks and builetin boards will develop for this special interest group: As more individuals get home computers with communications capabilities, even small businesses will be able to set up information and direct order computer systems using the same technology currently in use for the CBSs.

# Telecommuting

Many workers perform tasks that do not require their presence at a particular location while performing them. Professional writers; computer programmers, consultants, and many small businesspersons could do all or part of their work at home as well as they do at the office. All that is needed are two microcomputers with modems and communications software. Then, the small businessperson whose financial and business records are all stored on hard disk at the office can leave the office computer with the power on and go home. There he or she can use the home computer to pull any of these records, eliminating the necessity of carting all of the office files nome or working extra hours at the office.



Further, as long as a telephone line is available, appointment schedules, personnel files and other business information, whether on hard disk or on the mainframe computer at the office, would be available to the manager or entrepreneur from home, a hotel room, or a vacation site Writing letters and memos, making inquiries, and handling many routine functions could also be done at these locations. Moreover, telecommuting is not just limited to the manager. Typists could record dictation over the telephone, then use a word processing package at home to prepare a finished copy. A quick phone call between computers and the text is printed at the office for review.

What are some of the overall advantages of telecommuting? Transportation costs are lowered Commuting time can be spent with the family. Office operating costs for lights, heating or cooling, and janitorial services can be lowered. Child-care costs and clothing costs may be lowered. Work can be done at odd hours and at the worker's convenience.

Indeed, the possibilities and advantages for the "electronic home office" in small businesses are endless.



# APPENDICES



#### Appendix A

# BUSINESS SOFTWARE SOURCES' ADDRESSES

Aardvark Software, Inc. 783 North Water Street Milwaukee, WI 53202 (414) 289-9988

Accounting Information Systems 9845 Juliand Avenue Northridge, CA 91325 (213) 349-8349

Action-Research Northwest 11442 Marine View Drive, SW Seattle; WA 95146 (206) 241-1645

Addison-Wesley Publishing Company Software Marketing 3 Jacob Way Reading, MA 01867 (617) 944-2700

Advanced Analytical Computer Systems 19301 Ventura Blvd., Suite 203 Tarzana, CA 91056 (213) 708-3917

Advanced Business Technology, Inc. 12033 Sarctoga-Sunnyvale Road Saratoga, CA 95070 (408) 446-2013

Adventure international Division of Scott Adams, Inc. 736 Commerce Gircle PO Box 3435 Longwood, FL 32750 (305) 330-8194

Agri-Computer Services 104 Broad Street, SE Aliceville, AL 35442 (205) 373-6383 Alpha Software Corporation Six New England Park Burlington, MA 01803 (617) 229-2924

AlphaBlt Communications, Inc. 13349 Michigan Avenue Dearborn, MI 48126 (313) 581-2896

Alphanetics PO Box 339 Forestville, CA 95436 (707) 887-7237

American Business Systems, Inc. 459 Littleton Road Westford, MA 01886 (617) 632-2600

American Small Business Computers 118 Mill Pryor, OR 74361 (918) 825-4844

Analytic Systems 24 Old Kings Highway, S Darien, CT 06820 (203) 655-7426

Andent; Inc. 1000 North Avenue Waukegan; IE 60085 (312) 223-5077

Apparat, Inc. 4401 South Tamarac Parkway Denver, CO 80237 (303) 741-1778



Apple Computer, Inc. 20525 Mariani Avenue Cupertino, CA 95014 (408) 996-1010

Applied Operations Research; Inc. 22056 Saticacy Street Canoga Park, CA 91303 (213) 340-1419

Applied Software Technology 14125 Capri Drive Los Gutos, CA 85030 (408) 370-2662

Arlington Software Systems 97 Bartlett Avenue Arlington, MA 02174 (617) 641-0290

Artsci; Inc: 5547 Satsuma North Hollywood, CA 91601 (213) 985-2922

Artwork Software Company, Inc 150 Main Street Eairport, NY 14456 (716) 425-2833 (800) 828-6573

Ashton-Tate 10150 Jefferson Blvd. Culver City, CA 90230 (213) 204-5570

ASTEC, Inc. 400 Hillside Avenue Needham, MA 02194 (614) 444-5551

Automated Office Systems 602 Lookout Drive; #213 Richardson, TX 75080 (214) 669-9966

Automation Management, Inc. PO Box 3159 Texas City, 7X 77590 (713) 948-3050 Avant-Garde Creations PO Box 30160 Eugene, OR 97403 (503) 345-3043

BAPS Software 6011 San Felipe Houston, TX 77057 (713) 683-1426

Basic Business Software, Inc. PO Box 26311 Las Vegas, NV 89126 (702) 876-9493

Beauman Porter, Inc. Pleasant Ridge Road Harrison, NY 10528 (914) 967-3504

Benchmark Creations PO Box 31861 Raleigh; NC 27622 No Listing

Best Programs 3614 Oval Drive Alexandria, VA 22305 (703) 549-3663

BIO Data 1953 South River Avenue Springfield, MO 65804 (417) 882-6301

Bluebirds, Inc. 2267 23rd Street Wyandotte, (Al 48192 (313) 285-4455

BPJ Systems, Inc. 3423 Gaudalupe Austin; TX 78705 (512) 454-7191

Broderbund Software; Inc. 1938 Fourth Street San Rafael; CA 94901 (415) 456-6424



The Business Manager 1420 East Edinger Avenue, Suite 115 Santa Ana, CA 92705 (714) 836-3560

BusinessMaster, Inc. 1207 Elm Äventie, Suite M Carlsbad, CA 92008 (619) 434-6165 (800) 521-9277

Business and Professional Software, Inc. 143 Benney Street Cambridge, MA 02142 (614) 491-3377

Business Planning Systems Two North State Street Dover, DE 19901 (302) 674-5500

The Business Solutions, Inc. 60 East Main Street Kings Park L.I., NY 11754 (516) 269-1120

Carey Moeller & Associates 1926 Farwell San Antonio, TX 78213 (5/2) 341-8771

C&D Software Claude Duplissey Little Rock; AR 72204 (501) 569-3252

CE Software 801 73rd Street Des Moines, IA 50312 (515) 224-1995

Cented Process Systems Cented Bldg. 11260 Roger Bacon Drive Reston; VA 22090 (703) 471-6300 Charles Mann & Associates Microcomputer Division 55722 Santa Fe Trail Yucca Valley; CA 92284 (619) 365-9718

C&H Video 110 West Caracao Avenue Hershey, PA 17033 (717) 533-8480

CMA Microcomputer Division 55722 Santa Fe Trall Yucca Valley, CA 92284 (619) 365-9718

Commercial Software Systems 7689 West Frost Drive Littleton, CO 80123 (303) 761-8062

Compumax, Inc. PO Box 7239 Menio Park; CA 94025 (415) 854-6700

Compu-Tations; Inc: PO Box 502 Troy; MI 48099 (313) 689-5059

Computech Group; Inc. Main Line Industrial Park Lee Bivd. Frazer, PA 19355 (215) 644-3344

Computer Aided Design 764 24th Avenue San Francisco, CA 94121 (415) 387-0263

Computer Consultants 312 Hoyt Street Dunkirk; NY 14048 (716) 366-0766



Computer Products; Inc. 3225 Danny Park Metairie, LA 70002 (504) 455-5330

Computer Services 14 Pierce Avenue Oak Ridge, NJ 07430 No Listing

Computer Shack 1691 Eason Pontiac, MI 48054 (313) 673-2224

Computer Software International 15 Grand Avenue Englewood, NJ 07631 (201) 894-0653

Computer Software Design, Inc. 1911 Wright Circle Anaheim: CA 92806 (714) 634-9012

Computer Systems Besign; Inc: PO Box 735 Yakima, WA 98902 (509) 453-2956

Computer Tax Service PO Box 7915 Incline Village, NV 89450 (702) 832-1001

Computerized Management Systems 1039 Cadix Drive Simi Valley, CA 93065 (805) 526-0151

Computers Plus PO Box 658 Montecello; AZ 71655 (501) 367-5235

Computerware PO Box 668 Encinitas, CA 92024 (619) 436-3512 Comsen, Inc. 20-A Erford Road Lemoyne, PA 17043 (717) 737-6971

Comshare Target Software, Inc. 1935 Cliff Valley Way, Suite 200 Atlanta; GA 30329 (404) 634-9535

Comsis Corporation 2685 Marine Way, Bldg. A Mountain View, CA 94043 (415) 964-5911

Conceptual Instruments Company 4730 Warrington Avenue Philadelphia, PA 19143 (215) 726-7856

Construction Data Control; Inc. 2000 Weems Road Tucker, GA 30084 (404) 934-4722

Continental Software Company 11223 South Hindry Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90045 (213) 417-3003

Contract Service Associates 706 South Euclid Anaheim, CA 92802 (714) 635-4055

Cornucopia Software 1625 Beverly Place Berkeley; CA 94707 (415) 524-8098

Countryside Data; Inc. 718 Skyline Idaho Falls, ID 83402 (208) 529-8576

CPAids, Inc. 1640 Franklin Avenue Kent, OH 44240 (216) 678-9015



Creative Solutions International 10597 Humbolt Street Los Alamitos, CA 90720 (213) 493-1446

Cybernetics, Inc. 8041 Newman Avenue, Suite 208 Huntington Beach, CA 92647 (714) 848-1922

Cybernetics Resource Corporation 10 Maple Street Port Washington; NY 11050 (516) 883-7676

Dale-Data Data Processing Service 5840 Southwest Cheldenham Drive Portland, OR 97201 (503) 245-8798

Data Automation Service International 2145 N.W. Tenth Street Gainsville, IL 32501; (904) 372-2357

Data Consulting Associates 18000 Coleman Valley Road Occidental, CA 95465 (707) 874-3067

Datamensions Corporation 615 Academy Drive Northbook; IL 60062 (312) 564-4060

Datasmith; Inc. PO Box 8036 Shawnee Mission; KS 66208 (913) 381-9118

Data Soft of New Hampshire 22 Stevens Avenue Merrimack, Nd 03054 (603) 424-5217

Data Systems, Inc. PO Box 6008 Bakersfield, CA 93386 (805) 395-3260 Data Train Service 840 N.W: Sixth Street, Suite 3 Grants Pass, CR (503) 476-1467

Decision Resources 44 White Birch Road Weston; CT 06883 (203) 222-1974

Demi-Software 6 Lee Road Medfield, MA 02052 (617) 359-4502

The Deriver Software Company 14100 East Jewell Avenue, Suite 15 Aurora, CO 80012 (303) 750-9980

Desktop Computer Software, Inc. 303 Potrero Street, 29/305 Santa Cruz; CA 95060 (40° 5-9095

Diamond Head Software 2737 Kalakaua Avenue, Suite 28 Honolulu, Hi 96815 (808) 922-1113

Digital Marketing Corporation 2670 Cherry Lane Walnut Creek, CA 94596 (415) 938-2880

Diversified Computer Services 5601 Penn Avenue, A-23 Pittsburgh, PA 15206 (412) 361-7540

Douglas Tam 41-78 Forley Street Elmhorst, NY 11373 (212) 457-0932

Downeast Digital RD 1; Box 4130 5'-on, ME 04979 107) 643-2437



Dynacomp, Inc. 1427 Monroe Ávenue Rochester; NY 14618 (716) 442-8960

Eagle Software Publishers Inc 993 Old Eagle School Road, Suite 409 Wayne, PA 19087 (215) 964-8660

Edu-Ware East PO Box 335 Maynard, MA 01754 (617) 568-8641

Eigen Systems PO Box 10234 Austin, TX 78766 (512) 837-4665

Eilis Computing S :Hware 3917 Noriega Street San Francisco, CA 94122 (415) 753-0188

ElTech Associates 2466 Moreno Drive Los Angeles: CA 90039 (213) 663-0347

Emeritus S wa library 5110 East C + ay; Suite 202 Fresho, CA 9 (209) 251-3525

Enertronics Research, Inc. 150 North Meramec, Suite 207 St. Louis, 110 63105 (314) 725-5566

Ensign Software 2312 North Cole Road, Suite E Boise, ID 83704 (208) 378-8086

Enterprise Octoputer Systems, Inc. Suite G-18 IBM Building PO Box 10156 Jacksonville, Ft 32207 (904) 399-3899

Executive Data Systems 290 Interstate North, Suite 116 Atlanta, GA 30339 (404) 955-3374

Execuware Microcomputer Software 7415 Pineville-Matthews F Suite 300, Box 10 Charlotte, NC 28211 (800) 438-3636 (704) 541-1199

Farm Management Group of Mississippi PO Box 646 McComb; MS 39648 (601) 684-6462

Farmplan Computer Systems; Inc: PO Box 65 Campbell, CA 95009 (408) 379-3932

FOT, Inc. 12250 Hawthorne Plaza Hawthorne, CA 90250 (213) 973-2086

Ferox Microsystems, Inc. 1701 North Fort Meyer Dr., 6th Floor Arlington, VA 22209 703) 841-0800

7 ncier; Inc. 24ca Computer Drive PC Box 6 : Westboro MA 01581 (617) 366-0950

Flowersoft 564 Tara Manteca: CA 95336 No Listing

G&L Software Enterprises 2304 North First Street Upland, CA 91786 No Listing

Galactic Software 11520 North Port Washington Road Negusin, W/ 53902 (414) 241 8030



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Galixy, life Department LP2, PO Box 22072 San Diego, CA 2122 (619) 231-4945

Gartield, Grossed & Postariff 1101 Chestnut Street Roseile, NJ 07203 (201) 245-5933

GB Lenz 3231 Vineyard, 42 Pleasanton, CA 64566 (415) 846-8406

GMS Systems, Inc. 12 West 37th Street New York, NY 10018 (212) 947-3590

Graphic Communications, Inc. 200 Fifth Avenue Waltham, MA 02254 (617) 890-8778

Graphic Software, Inc. PO Box 367 Kenmore Station Boston; MA 02215 (617) 491-2434

Great Plains Software 123 15th Street North Fargo, ND 58102 (701) 293-8483

Gregg/McGrew-Hill 1221 Avenus of the Americal New York, Ly 10025 (212) 197-1221

H&E Con Autronics, Inc. 50 North Pascack : . ad Spring Valley, NY 10 )77 (914) 425-1535

H&H Trading Company PO Box 549 Clayton, CA 94517 (415) 672-3233 Harris Technology Systems, in PO Box 80837 624 Peach Street Lincoln, NE 68501 (402) 476-2811

Hayden Book Company 50 Essex Street New Rochelle Park, NJ 07662 (201) 843-0550 (800) 631-0856

Hayden Software Company 600 Soffolk Street Lowell, MA 0 1853 (800) 343-1218 (617) 937-0200

Heigen Corporation 2201 Pacific Avenue, Suite 401 San Francisco; CA 94115 (415) 929-7443

Hexagon Systems
PO Box 397 Station A
Vancouver, BC
C 13da V6C 2N2
(604) 682-7646

High Technology Software Products, Inc PO Box 60406 16 1 N.W 23rd Street Oklahoma City, OK 73146 (405) 524-4359

Highlands Computer Services 14422 S.E. 132nd Street Henton; WA 98056 (206) 228-6691

Holland Automation USA; Inc. 3400-D, West MacArthur Blvd. Santa Ana; CA 92704 (714) 647-2844

Holman Data Processing Service 2039 West Lincoln Ordville\_DA 95965 (916) 533-5992



Houghton Mifflin Company One Beacon Street Boston MA 02103 (617) 725-5526

Howard Software Services 8008 Girard Avenue, Suite 310 La Jolla, CA 92037 (619) 454-0121

t:owe Software 14 Lexington Hoad New City, NY 10956 (914) 634-1821

IBM Corporation Software Publishing Division PO Box 1328, Dept. 2C6/232-2 Boca Raton, FL 33432 (305) 998-1727

ICR/Futuresoft
PO Box 1446
Orange Park, FL 32073
104) 269-1918

Image Computer Production, Inc. 515 Academy Drive Northbrook, It 88862 (312) 564-5050

Informatio, Solutions; Inc. Softiend Division
PD Box 198
Charlottesyll , V7 22902
(800) 268-3512

Information Unlimited Software 2401 Marinship Way Sauspito, CA 97965 (415) 331 8700

Infosoft, Inc. 80 Washington Street PO Box 640 Norwalk; CT 06856 (203) 866-8833 Innovative Software; Inc. 9300 West 110th Street Bldg. 55. Suite 380 Overland Park, KS 66210 (913) 883-0154

Instant Software Petersborough, NM 03458 (603) 924-9271

Institute for Scientific Analysis PO Box 7186 Wilmington, DE 19803 (215) 358-3735

Integrity Systems, Inc. 4812 Interstate Drive Cincinnati; OH 45246 (513) 974-8160

International Computer Products 346 North Western Avenue Los Angeles, CA 90004 (213) 462-8381

International Micro Systems, Inc. 5445 Metcalf Shawnee Mission, KS 56202 (913) 577-1137

International Software Markeling, Ltd. 120 East Washington Street Suite 421 Syracuse, NY 18202 (117) 474-3400

isaac Software 841 West Nebraska Avenue St. Paul; MN 55117 No bisting

J. Michael Healy 137 Citation Court Birmingham; 7.€ 35209 (205) 942-6740

Jack Strick & Associates 949 South Southlake Drive Hollywood, FL 33019 (305) 925-70-74



Joe Agrella 1226 N.W. Fourth Avenue Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311 305) 525-1192

Johnson Associates PO Box 3069 1570 Hartwell Avenue Redding, CA 96049 (916) 221-0740

Philip Microwave, Ltd. Third Avenue Nov- York, NY 10022 (215, 486-7767

Kleinhammer PU Box 1665 Morro Bay, CA 93442 (805) 772-2766

RSoft 845 Wellner Road Naperville, IL 60546 (312) 961-1250 Land 318 Lakeside Drive Brandon, MS 39042 (601) 992-2239

Libra Laborator.es 495 Main Street Meturillen, NJ 08840 (201) 494-2224

Lifeboat Associates 1651 Third Avenue New York, NY 10028

ree Software, Inc. Webster Street Suite 342 Monterey, CA 93940 (408) 373-4718

Liñk Sÿstems 1640 19th Street Santa Monica, CA 90404 (213) 453-1851 Lizcon Compüter Systems 1140 Brickyard Road Salt Lake City, UT 84106 (801) 467-0702 or 484-8179

EJK Enterprises, Inc. 785/ Big Bend Blvd. St. Fouis; MO 63119 (314) 962-1855

Lotus Development Company 55 Wheeler Street Cambridge: MA 62138 (800) 343-5414 (617) 492-7870

Management Systems Softwar. 5200 Brittany Drive; #1006 St. Petersburg, FL 33715 (813) 864-4347

Manhattan Software PO Box 1063 Woodland Hills, CA 91365 (213) 453-6613

Marathon Microsystems, Inc. 2610 Grant Street Evanston; It. 60201 (312) 864-6289

Marc Fogg Software 2550 Webster Street San Francisco; CA 91786 No Listing

Mark of the Unicorn, Inc. 222 Third Street Cambridge, MA 02139 (517) 57,7-2760

Märke: Power 11780 Rough & Reddy Road Rough & Ready, CA 35975 (91' 432-1200

Masterworks Software, Inc. 25834 Narbonne Avenue Lomita, CA 90717 (213) 539-7486



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Mayday Software PO Box €6 Phillips, WI 54550 (715) 339-3905

MECC 2520 Broadway Drive St Paul, MN 55113 (612) 638-0683

Medical Software Consortium 502 Springmont Drive Hopkinsville: KY 42240 (502: 886-0208

Mendocino Software PO Box 1564 Willds, CA 95490 (707) 459-9130

Metamorphics, Inc. 154 Montgomery Avenue Bala Cynwyd, PA 19004 (215) 558-9000

Metasoft Corporation
711 East Cottonwood Lane, Suite E
Casa Grande, AZ 85222
(602) 951-0003

Micro Applications Group 7300 Caldals Avenua Van Nuyr CA 91496 (213) 851 1076

Micro Arc. ect; Inc; 96 Dothan reet Arlington; NA 02174 (517) 543-4719

Micro Associates; Inc. Suite 51 J. 2300 Highway 365 Nederland, TX 77627 (713) 724-6580

Microbase Software, Inc. PU Box 40353 Indianapolis, IN 46240 (317) 877-4304 Micro Business Software, Inc. Willow Hill Bldg Dover Road Chichester, NH 03263 (603) 798-5700

Microcode 683 Oak Street Columbus; Ohio 43215 (614) 221-8777

Microcomputer Sales Corporation PO Box 52376 223 Fairway Drive Fayetteville, NC 28305 (919) 483-2003

Microcomputer Tax Systems, Inc. 22458 Ventura Blvd., Suite F Woodland Hills, CA 91364 (213) 704-7800

Microcon Digital Systems, Inc. 175 West Walnut Street Kokomo; IN 46901 (317) 457-6623

Micro Control Systems, Inc. 431 Vineyard Point Road Guilford; CT 06437 203) 643-4897

, licro Data Business Forms 5707 Lacey Blvd., #4 Olympia, WA 98503 (206) 459-3300

Microssio 2310 Skokie Valley Road Highland Park, IL 60035 (312) 433-7550

Micro LearningWare I lighway 66 South, PO Box 507 Mankato, MN 56002-0307 (507) 625-2205

Micromatic Programming Company PO Box 158 Georgetown, CT 06829 (26c, 324-3069



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Micro Mike's, Inc. 3015 Plains Blvd. PO Box 1440 Amarillo, TX 79102 (806) 372-3633

MicroPro International Corporation 33 San Pablo A Janue San Rafael, CA 94903 (415) 499-1200

MicroSoft Consumer Products 10700 Northup Way Bellevue, WA 98004 (206) 828-8080

MicroSystems Software, Inc. 4301-18 Oak Circle Boca Raton, FL 33431 (305) 983-9027

Miller Microcomputer Services 61 Eake Shore Road Natick, MA 01760 (617) 653-6136

VIPSI 2481 Bayshore Road: Suite 540 Paio Alto: CA 94503 (415) 856-6382

Muse Software 347 North Charles Street Hallistore, MD 21201 (301) 859-7212

NF Systems, Ltd. PO Box 76363 Atlanta GA 30358 (404) 252-3300

National Software Mari eting Company PO Box 6195 4701 McKinley Street Holly youd, FL 33021 (305) 961-4888

Nehring Pc ox 61152 Sunnyvale, CA 94088 (408) 984-2558 Nevins Microsystems, Inc. 210 Fifth Avenue New York, NY 10010 (212) 807-7033

Novell Data Systems Corporation 3400 Wilshire Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90010 (213) 258-1653

Northwest Analytical Company 1532 S.W. Morrison Street PO Box 14430 Portland, OR 97205 (803) 224-7707

NI-Squared Computing 5318 Forest Ridge Road Silverton, OR 97381 (503) 873-5906

Orion Business Systems 147 Main Ossining; NY 10562 (914) 762-5636

Cansophics
Whistle Stop Mail
PO Box 59
Rockport, MA 01966
(617) 546-3104

PBC Data Systems, Inc. PO Box 6008 Bakersfield, CA 93386 (805) 395-3231

PBL Corporation PO Box 559 Wayzata; MN 5539: (612) 471-7644

PCB Systems; Inc. PO Box 143; Penn Yan New York, NY 14527 (315) 536-3734

PCEZ Business Softward 1852 Green Bay Road Highland Park; IL 60/ 35/ (312) 432-1116



Peachtree Software; Inc. 3445 Peachtree Road, NE Atlanta, GA 30326 (404) 262-2376

Perfect Software, Inc. 702 Harrison Street Berkeley, CA 94710 (415) 974-6661

Peripheral Visions 5285 Elam Young Parkway B400 Hillsboro, OR 97123 (503) 640-1317

Phoenix 64 Lai.e Zurich Drive Lake Zurich; IE 60047 (312) 738-4850

The Pilisbury Company 3286 Pilisbury Center Minneapolis, MN 55462 (612) 330-4966

Pocket Information Corporation PO Box 152 Segverton, OR 97075 (503) 649-8145

Precision Prototypes 410 East Roca Refugio, TX 78377 (512) 526-4758

Professional Medical Software, Inc. 3804 Foothill Blvd.
En Grest enda, CA 91214
(213) 248-2884

Professional Software Technology 51 Freeniont Street Needham; NA 92194 (800) 343 4074

ProSoft PO Box 560 North Hr llywood, CA 91603 (213) 763-3131 Color, Suffware Child Resedu Elivid., 185 Resed. CA 91135 (213) 344 8599

Qdick Tax, Ltg. 319 Clawson Street Staten Island, NY 10306 (212) 351-6: 43

Radio Shack 1500 One Tandy Center Fort Worth, TX 76102 (817) 390-3832

Hallicow Enterprises 7-480A | Street Elmendorf AFB; AK (907) 753-2991

Realty Software Co. 1115 8th Street E Manhattan Beach; CA 90266 (213) 372-9413

Red Wing Business Systems; Inc. PO Box 19 610 Main Street Red Wing, MN 55066 (612) 388-1106

Relational Systems International Corp. 5003 Commercial Street, SE Salem, OR 97309 (503) 363-8929

Rocky Mountain Software Systems 1280 C Newell Avenue, Sulte 147-L1 Walnut Creek; CA 94596 (415) 680-8378 (800) 832-2244

Botary File PO Box 102-A Eagle Road Newton, PA 18940 (215) 968-2533

Sapaña Micro Software PO Box 748 Quincy, IL 92301 (217) 224-4337



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Satori Software 5507 North Woodlawn Seattle, WA 98163 (206) 633-1469

Scorpion Systems 120 North Court Street Frederick, MD 21701 (201) 663-0539

Scripps Data Systems, Inc. Suite 202 G 9747 Busir ess Spark Avenue San Diego, CA 92131 (714) 695-1540

Sensible Software 6619 Perham Drive West Bloomfletd, MI 48033 (313) 855-6112

Serendipity Systems, Inc. 419 Seneca Street Ithaca; NY 14850 (518) 277-4889

Sierra-On-Line; Inc: 36575 Mudge Ranch Road Coarsogold, CA 93017 (209) 683-6858

Silicon Valley Systems 1625 El Camino Real, #4 Belmont, CA 94002 (415) 593 1344

Simplified Software Systems 118 Third Avenue, NW PO Box 1192 Hickory, NU 29601 (704) 328-2389

SIMSoft Associated 1258 17th Street Marsville, MI 48040 (313) 364-7241

Simutek Computer F oducts, the 4877 East Speedway Tucsor; AZ 85712 (602) 528-9391 (800) 528-1149

Small Business Systems Group 6 Carlisle Road Westford, MA 01886 (617) 692-3800

Smith Micro Software PO Box 604 Sunset Beach, CA 90742 (213) 592-1032

Snappware, Inc. 3719 Mantell Cincinnall, CH 45236 (513) 891-4496

Sof/Sys; Inc: 4306 Upton Avenue, S Minneapolis; MN 55410-1589 (612) 929-7104

Soft Sector Marketing; Inc: 6250 Middlebelt Garden City; MI 48135 (313) 425-4020

Sofstar, Inc. 13935 US 1, Juno Square Juno Beach, FL 33408 (305) 607-5511

Softrend, Inc. PO Box 1462 Charlottesville, VA 22907 (FCA) 878-6184

Software Dimensi :52, 156. 6341 Auburn Bivd. Citrus Heights; CA 95610 (916) 722-8000

So tware Laboratories; In 2: 8924 Riverside Drive Dublin, OH 43017 (614) 889-5083

Software Options, Inc. PO Box 970 19 Rector Street New York, NY 10006 (212) 785-8205



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Software Publishing Corporation 1901 Landings Drive Mountain View, CA 94043 (415) 962-8910

Software Resources Inc. 186 Alewije Brook Parkway: Suite 310 Cambridge, MA 02:38 (617) 497-5900

Scitware Solutions 5124 Highway 17 Scotts Valley, CA 95066 (468) 438-2433

Schware Technology for Computers 430A Vain Street Watertown, MA 02172 (617) 923-4334

Software Terminal 223 Fairway Drive Fayelteville, NC 28305 (919) 483-2003

Software Works 1032 Fiwell Court: Suite ±18 Palo Alto, CA 94303 (415) 950-1800

Soroim Corporation 2310 Lundy Avenue Sall Jose, CA 95131 (408) 942-1727

Southfork Software, inc. 68 Fairlake Drive Hattlesburg, MS 39401 (601) 545-1680

SouthWest EdPsych Services, In PO Box 1876 Phoenix, AX 85861 (602) 253-6528

South Western Publishing Company 교101 Madison Road Cincinnati. '가다 45227 (513) 271-P970 Spectrum Software 142 Carlow Sunnyvale, CA 94087 (408) 738-4387

SRA Software Science Research Associates: Inc. 155 North Wacker Drive Chicago, IL 60606 (312) 984-7000

Star Computer Systems, Inc 18051 Crenshaw Blvd., Suite D Torrunce; CA 90504 (213) 538-2511

Starside Engineering PO Box 8306 Rochester, NY 14618 No Listing

Starsoft Inc. 4984 El Camino Ruad Suite 125 Los Altos, CA 94022 (415) 965-8000

Starware 3901 Davis Place, NV Washington, DC 20007 (202) 468-7351

State of the Art, Inc. 3183-A Airway Avenue Costa Mesa; CA 92626 (714) 953-0111

Stoneware Microcomputer Products 50 Belvedere Street San Rafael; ©Ä 94901 (415) 454-6500

Strategic Simulations 465 Fairchild, Suite 108 Mcuntain View, CA 94043 (415) 964-1353



Stull 12314 O. H.il Road Fairfax, V.A. 22033 (703) 570 - 10

Such. Manag ment Consultants 315 - Judview Dr. = Patric Polisades CA 90272 (21.1454-8030

Summer ville Enterprises Agri-Computer Service 104 Proad Street, SE Aliceville, AL 35542 (205) 373-6383

Synapse Video 5221 Central Avenue Richmond, CA 94804 (415) 527-7751

Synergistic Software 5221 120th Avenue, SE Bellevue; WA 98008 (206) 228-3213

Syntax poration 4503 We. 72nd Terrace PO Box 8137 Prairie Village, KS 66208 (913) 362-9667

Syscon 3040 Scott Blüd. Sama Clara, CA 95050 (408) 727-2751

System Design Lab Coftware 2612 Artesia Rivd., Pulte B Redondo Beach, CA 90278 (213) 374-4473

Systemics; Inc. 3056 Shring Street West Bloomfield, MI 40033 (313) 851-2504

13 Consulting, Inc. 2626 South Ecop, Sc. 1600 Pouston, TX 77954 (713) 661-9001 TCI Software 6107 West Mill Road Flourtown; PA 19031 (215) 836-1406

TCS Software, Inc. PO Box 47550 Atlanta, GA 30362 (404) 455-6162

Teaching Assistant 22 Seward Drive Huntington Station, NY 11746 (516) 226-0534

Techland Systems, Inc. 25 Waterside Plaza New York, NY 10010 (212) 684-7788

Tecmar, Inc. 6225 Cochran Road Cleveland: OH 44139 (215) 349-0500

Telephone Software Connection PO Box 0548 Toriunce, CA 90504 (213) 516-9430

Tetrau Computer Applications 740 Nicola Street Vancouver, BC V6G 2C2 (604) 685-2295

TexaSoft 1028 North Madison Avenue Dallas, Texas 75208 (214) 941-8475

Time Management Software PO Box 727 Cushing: OK 74628 (918) 225-6340

TLB Consulting; Inc: 1120 Commerce Parkway PO Box 414 Findlay, OH 45340 (419) 424-0422



TMQ Software 82 Fox Hill Drive Buffalo Grove, 'L 60090 (312) 520-4440

Tomar Productions PO Box 740871 Dallas, TX 75374 (214) 363-3059

United Software of America 750 Third Avenue New York, NY 10017 (212) 682-0347

Univar International 10327 Eambert International Airport St. Logis, MO 63145 (314) 426-1099

Universal Data Research, Inc. 2457 Wehrle Drive Bullalo, NY 1422\* (716) 631-301 i

Utilities Engineering 213 19th Street PO Box 299 Brigantine, NU 0820 (609) 266-1774

Venturcom, Inc. 139 Main Street Cambridge, MA 02142 (617) 661-1230

Verbalim Software Company 7000 Broadway, 5/104 Denver, CO 80221 (303) 420 5/190

Versa Compoting, Inc. 3541 Old Conejo Road, Suite 104 Westlake Village; CA 91362 (800) 358-999 (800) 362-4599 Virtual Combinatics PO Box 755 Rockport, MA 01966 (617) 546-6553

VisiCorp 2895 Zanker Road San Jose, CA 95134 (408) 946-9000

Westico, Inc. 325 Van Zant Street Norwalk: CT 06855 (203) 853-6880

Westware Software; Inc 2455 West Fourth Avenue, S Ontario; OR 97914 (503) 881-1477

Whelan Associates, ' Gwyneedd Plaza PO Box 650 Spring House, PA 9477 (215) 643-7470

Wilson Jones Company 243 Park Avenue New York, NY 19167 (212) 475-6900

WIMS Computer Consulting 6723 66th Place Tolsa, OK 74171 (918) 492-9036

Ziggurat Software PO Box 453 Arlington Heights: IL 60006 (312) 253-5350



#### Appendix B

### ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

#### Journals

Business Computer System
Conners Publishing
221 Columbus Avenue
Boston, MA 02216
(Published Monthly—\$35.00 Yearly)

Business Soltware
MIS, Inc.
3542 Northeast Proadway
Portland, OR 97232
(Published Biannually—\$18.00 Yearly)

\* BYTE BYTE Subscriber Service McGraw-Hill, Inc. PO Box 328 Hancock; NH 03449 (Published Monthly—\$21.00 Yearly)

Compute
Small System Services, Inc.
PO Box 5406
Greensboro, NC 27403
(Published Monthly—\$20.00 Yearly)

ComputerWorld PO Box 880 Framingham, MA 01701 (Published Weekly—\$39.00 Yearly)

Creative Computing
PO Box 5214
Boulder, CO 80321
(Published Monthly—\$24.97 Yearly)

Desktor Computing
Wayne Green; Inc.
PO Box 917
Farmingdale, NY 11737
(Published Monthly—\$24.97 Yearly)

80 Micro PO Box 981 Farmingdale, NY 11737 (Published Monthly—\$25.00 Yearly)

ICP Software Business Review 9000 Keystone Crossing PO Box 40946 Indianapolis: IN 46240 (Published & darterly—Free)

InCider
Wayne Green; Inc.
PO Box 911
Farmingdale, NY 11737
(Published Monthly—\$25,00 Yearly)

intoWorld 375 Cochituate Road, Box 886 Frachingham, MA 01701 (Published Workly—\$31.00 Yearly)

Interface Age 16704 Marguardt Avenue Cerritos, CA 90701 (Published Monthly—\$21.00 Yearly)

Microcomputing
Wayne Green inc.
80 Pine Street
Petersborough; NH 03458
(Published Monthly—\$25.00 Yearly)



Microsystems CN 1987 Morristown, NJ 07960 (Published Monthly--\$26.97 Yearly)

Mini-Micro Systems 270 St. Paul Street Denver, CO 80206 (Free)

Nibble Box 325 Lincoln, MA 01773 (Published Monthly—\$35.50 Yearly)

PC Tech Journal
PO Box 598
Morris Plains, NJ 07950
(Published Bimonthly—\$24.37 Yearly)

PC The Independent Guide to IBM Personal Computers
Ziff-Davis Publishing Company
One Park Avenue
New York, NY 10016
(Published Monthly—\$26.97 Yearly)

PC World
PC World Communications; Inc.
55 DeHoro Street
San Francisco, CA 94107
(Published Monthly—\$24.00 Yearly)

Peelings II PO Box 188 Las Cruces, NM 88004 (Nine Issues Annually—\$21.00 Yearly)

Personal Computer Age
Crone-Reasoner Corporation
16057 Commerce Avenue
Tojunga, CA 91042
(Published Monthly—\$18,00 Yearly)

Personal Computing
Hayden Publishing Company
50 Essex Street
Rochelle Park; NJ 07662
(Published Monthly—\$18.00 Yearly)

Personal Software Magazine Hayden Publishing Company 50 Essex Street Rochëlle Park, NJ 07662 (Published Monthly—\$24.00 Yearly)

Popular Computing
McGraw-Hill, Inc.
Subscriber Service
PO Box 328
Hancock, NH 03449
(Poblished Monthly—\$15.00 Yearly)

Small Business Computers Creative Computing CN 1988 Morristown, NJ 07960 (Published Monthly—\$19.97 Yearly)

Softside
Softside Publications; Inc.
10 Northern Blvd.
Amherst, NH 03031
(Published Monthly—\$30.00 Yearly)

Softalk
PO Box 60
North Hollywood, CA 91603
(Published Monthly—\$24.00 Yearly;

The Portable Companion
The Osborne Computer Corporation
26500 Corporate Avenue
Hayward, CA 94545
(Published Bimonthly—\$12.50 Yearly)

TRS-80 Microcomputer News
Radio Shack Corporation
1300 One Landy Center
Fort Worth; TX 76101
(Published Monthly—\$18.00 Yearly)



### Appendix &

## SOFTWARE EVALUATION AND RATING FORMS

## MICROCOMPUTER BUSINESS SOFTWARE EVALUATION

Package Title	
Version Pr	ice
Functional Area	
Specific Tasks Performed	
Vendor & Address	
Hardware Requirements	
Medium 5 1/2" disk 8" disk Cassette 6	Other(specify)
Other Software Required	
Package/Single Program	
Compatible with	
Part of Integrated Series	
Copy Policy/Reproducibility (Copyability) =	
•	



# MICROCOMPUTER BUSINESS SOFTWARE RATING FORM

Rating Sc	cale: 1 - 10, with 10 being the highest	
Documen	ntation	
	1. Člear & unambiguous	
	2 Consistent with hardware	**************************************
	3 Defines technical terms	
	4. Contains tutorial section	
	5. Provides examples that work	
	6. Completely explains all functions	
	7. Instructions produce expected results	
User Frier	ndiiness:	
	1. Commands simple & easy to remember	
	2: Adequately prompts user for input	
	3. Corrections are easy to make	
	4: Menus are unambiguous	-
	5. User can escape program at any point	
	6. Help menu is adequate	- F
	7. Program catches most errors	
Content-	•	
	1. Program performs accurately (i.e., gives correct answers)	
	2 Output is simple to interpret	<del></del>
	3. Program performs reliably (i.e.; gives correct answers)	
	4. Uses procedures consistent with your business operation	
TOTAL SO	OORE:	
Critical Pr	oblem Areas	11-
Unosoai S	trengths	
Recomme	ndation (check one): I recommend purchase of this package.	
	I do not recommend purchasing this package.	kage.
Reviewer N	Name Date	



## MICROCOMPUTER INSTRUCTIONAL SOFTWARE EVALUATION

Package Title	
Version	Price
Subject	Grade Level
Specific Skills/Concepts Taught	
Vendor & Address	
Hardware Requirements	
Medium 5 1/4" disk 8" disk Cassette	Other (specify)
Other Software Required	· ······
Package/Single Program	
Compatible with	
Part of Integrated Series	
Copy Policy/Reproducibility (Copyability)	
Instructional Purpose (check all that apply):  Remediation  Regular Instruction  Enrichment	
nstructional Technique (check all that apply):  Drill & Practice  Tutorial  Simulation	



# MICROCOMPUTER INSTRUCTIONAL SOFTWARE RATING FORM

Rating Scale. 1 - 10, with 10 being the highest; use NA when not applicable		
Documentation:		
1. Clear & unambiguous		
2. Consistent with hardware		
3 Defines technical terms		
4. Contains sample problems with solutions	The second secon	
User Friendliness:		
Commands simple & easy to remember	——	
2: Adequately prompts user for input		
3: Corrections are easy to make		
4: Menus are unambiguous		
5: User can escape program at any point		
6 Provision made for review or back up		
7. Help menu is adequate		
8 Program catches most errors		
Content:		
1. Content is accurate		
2. Content is complete	- 4	
3. Performance objectives are given		
4. Content has educational value		
5. Malerial is logically arranged		
6. Quiz administered, scored, and recorded		
7. Reading level is appropriate		
Presentation:		
1. Illustrations appropriate/attractive	···	
2. Sound effects are appropriately used		
3. The screen is used effectively		
4. Old material is removed prior to new material being displayed	<del></del>	
5: No unnecessary delays are built in		
6: Periodic progress checks are included		
7: Student is recycled through material when progress is not satisfactory		
TOTAL SCORE:		
Critical Problem Areas		
Uniusual Strengths		



	I recommend purchase of this package.  I do not recommend purchasing this package.	
Reviewer Name	Date	_



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- Captain: Sue W. "A Literature Search in Two Parts." Paper written for partial fulfillment of requirements for EDVT; Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 1982.
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